

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

DEC 8 1970

TELETYPE

Mr. T. H.	
Mr. F. H.	
Mr. J. H.	
Mr. D. H.	
Mr. Brennan	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Walters	
Mr. Soyars	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

NR 006 LV PLAIN

110 PM URGENT 12-8-70 DLB

TO DIRECTOR ATTN: ASSISTANT DIRECTOR A. ROSEN.
FROM LAS VEGAS (62-582) 4P

HOWARD HUGHES, INFORMATION CONCERNING.

REMYTELS DECEMBER ONE, FOUR, FIVE, AND SIX LAST AND TELCALL TO BUREAU TODAY.

POWER STRUGGLE FOR REPRESENTATION OF HUGHES' NEVADA INTERESTS BETWEEN CHESTER DAVIS - FRANK W. GAY (HUGHES TOOL CO.) AND ROBERT MAHEU (HUGHES NEVADA OPERATIONS) CONTINUES. LOCAL, NATIONAL, AND NUMEROUS FOREIGN PRESS REPRESENTATIVES AGGRESSIVELY PURSUING INTERESTS OF NEWS MEDIA IN LAS VEGAS.

DURING PM OF DECEMBER SEVEN LAST GOVERNOR PAUL LAXALT ANNOUNCED TO THE PRESS THAT HE AND CLARK COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY GEORGE FRANKLIN HAD TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH HUGHES EARLIER IN DAY. TELEPHONE CALL REPORTEDLY EMANATED FROM THE BAHAMAS AND LAXALT RELATED THAT HUGHES HAD TOLD HIM THAT HE HAD AUTHORIZED TAKE-OVER OF HUGHES NEVADA OPERATIONS BY DAVIS AND GAY AND HAD IN FACT TERMINATED ROBERT MAHEU AND JACK HOOPER. GOVERNOR LAXALT

END PAGE ONE

66 DEC 29 1970

T-48

Handwritten: Sullivan
12/11/70

RECEIVED
DEC 11 1970

NEY

Handwritten: NINE

Handwritten: SLS

PAGE TWO

INDICATED HE WAS NOW ASSURED THAT HUGHES WAS ALIVE, WELL, AND HAD VALIDLY AUTHORIZED CHANGE OF REPRESENTATION. LAXALT FURTHER COMMENTED THAT HUGHES HAD TOLD HIM HE INTENDED TO RETURN TO NEVADA TO "LIVE THE REST OF HIS LIFE". DA FRANKLIN CONFIRMED THAT HUGHES TOLD HIM AND LAXALT HE WAS IN FINE PHYSICAL CONDITION.

FOLLOWING THE GOVERNOR'S NEWS RELEASE THE MAHEU FACTION MADE A PRESS RELEASE INDICATING THEY WOULD NOT RELINQUISH CONTROL UNTIL LEGALLY ORDERED TO DO SO, BUT MADE NO OPEN CHALLENGE OF THE VERACITY OF THE GOVERNOR'S RELEASE. /

[REDACTED] b7c/D
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] FURNISHED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION
TO SAC LAS VEGAS TODAY. THE MAHEU FACTION PLANS TO INITIATE A "BOMBSHELL" IN THE MATTER THIS AM. HE STATED THE ENTIRE CASE OF THE DAVIS - GAY FACTION IS BASED UPON A DOCUMENT PURPORTEDLY SIGNED BY HOWARD HUGHES PERSONALLY, WHICH AUTHORIZED THIS FACTION TO TAKE COMMAND OF THE HUGHES NEVADA OPERATION. HE POINTED OUT THAT THE
END PAGE TWO

Wann Doc re [REDACTED] b7c/D
He is no friend of [REDACTED]
H

PAGE THREE

DAVIS - GAY FACTION HAVE FAILED TO PRODUCE THIS DOCUMENT UNTIL FORCED TO DO SO LATE LAST NIGHT IN CONNECTION WITH A LEGAL PLEADING THEY ARE PURSUING TO HAVE THE RESTRAINING ORDER WHICH WAS ISSUED AGAINST THEM DISMISSED. THE DOCUMENT ITSELF WAS FLOWN TO WASHINGTON, D.C., LAST NIGHT AND EXAMINED BY CHARLES APPEL, FORMER BUREAU DOCUMENT EXAMINER. [REDACTED] STATED APPEL FOUND HUGHES' SIGNATURE TO BE A FORGERY AND WILL TESTIFY TO SAME CONCLUSION. [REDACTED] INDICATED HE FEELS PROOF OF THIS FORGERY WILL SURFACE WHAT HE AND OTHERS CONSIDER TO BE THE "MOST MONUMENTAL STEAL ATTEMPT IN AMERICAN HISTORY".

6790

[REDACTED] ALSO ADVISED THAT HE IS AWARE THAT DAVIS, AS GENERAL COUNSEL FOR HUGHES AND AS HIS LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE IN THE TWA SUIT AGAINST HUGHES, PRODUCED A PURPORTED SIGNATURE BY HOWARD HUGHES WHICH WAS ALSO DETERMINED TO BE A FORGERY. THIS OCCURED IN APPROXIMATELY NINETEEN SIXTY-FOUR OR SIXTY-FIVE IN THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK. NO PROSECUTIVE ACTION WAS TAKEN AT THAT TIME AGAINST DAVIS OR HIS GROUP INASMUCH AS THE POINT BECAME MOOT DUE

END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

TO THE DIRECTION THE SUIT THEREAFTER TOOK. THE BUREAU WILL RECALL THAT THE JUDGEMENT AGAINST HUGHES WITH ACCRUED INTEREST AMOUNTS TO APPROXIMATELY TWO HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS AND IS CURRENTLY UNDER APPEAL.

[REDACTED] STATED HE DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT THE TELEPHONE CALL REPORTED BY GOVERNOR LAXALT WAS FROM HOWARD HUGHES AND THERE IS SERIOUS DOUBT IN HIS MIND AS TO HUGHES' WHEREABOUTS, COMPETENCY, AND PHYSICAL WELL-BEING. [REDACTED] SPECULATED THAT WHEN THE FORGERY IS OFFICALLY ANNOUNCED AND ACCEPTED, THE DAVIS-GAY FACTION WILL HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE EXCEPT TO RELINQUISH CONTROL AND DEPART NEVADA IN A HURRY.

b7c

ABOVE FURNISHED FOR INFORMATION. NO INQUIRY OF ANY KIND BEING CONDUCTED OR COMMENTS BEING MADE IN THIS MATTER BY LAS VEGAS OFFICE, HOWEVER, INFORMATION OF POSSIBLE PERTINENCE TO BUREAU INTERESTS BEING ACCEPTED.

END

✓ MS A

168-

EBM FBI WA CLR

CC-MR. ROSEN

12/14/70

1 - Mr. [REDACTED]
1 - Mr. [REDACTED] b7c

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, Las Vegas

FROM: Director, FBI

①
HOWARD HUGHES;
INFORMATION CONCERNING - MISSING PERSON

Reurtel 12/11/70.

This is to confirm Butelcal 12/13/70. When you were requested to interview immediately [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and take signed statements, if possible. In event these two individuals substantially corroborate information in retel, additional interviews are desired with secretaries of Hughes, particularly [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] noted in retel. b7c

Sutel results and keep Bureau informed of developments. ✓

JRA:bls
(5) bl

NOTE:

SA [REDACTED] called SAC Campbell, LV, 6:20 p.m., 12/13/70, re above. b7c

REC-81 62-99801-17

10 DEC 15, 1970

MAILED 23

DEC 14 1970

COMM-FBI

Tolson _____
Sullivan _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Wrenn, C.D. _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Tavel _____
Walters _____
Foyers _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

57 DEC 22 1970

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

December 5, 1970

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

This concerns mysterious disappearance of Howard Hughes believed absent from Las Vegas, Nevada, since at least Thanksgiving night, 11/26/70.

Attached advises that H. M. Greenspun, Publisher, "Las Vegas Sun" daily newspaper contacted SAC, Las Vegas 12/4/70 and is of opinion that Hughes was abducted or transported out of State by unknown persons possibly seeking to gain control of huge Hughes business complex. He plans to break story about 12/5/70 and said "Los Angeles Times" will run a simultaneous headline story. In his opinion FBI should initiate investigation immediately and if not done, he will point out FBI had been advised and "had refused to conduct investigation."

[REDACTED] advised he is unaware of circumstances surrounding disappearance of Hughes but has verified Hughes left Las Vegas about 11/26/70.

The whereabouts of the five individuals in contact with Hughes on daily basis are also unknown. [REDACTED] of opinion Hughes left through direction of Frank W. Gay and Chester Davis, General Counsel of Hughes Tool Company. [REDACTED] convinced Hughes is currently at Emerald Beach Hotel, Nassau, where entire floor has been reserved since 1957.

Las Vegas will maintain liaison with [REDACTED] but will conduct no investigation.

RPK:mfd

A Rgm RJS
WCS

✓ 1/24
WCS

170/0

NR008 LV PLAIN

7:12 PM URGENT 12-4-70 RAL

TO DIRECTOR

FROM LAS VEGAS (62-582) 6P

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Bishop	✓
Mr. Brennan	CD
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Walters	
Mr. Soyars	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

①
HOWARD HUGHES - INFORMATION CONCERNING, MISSING PERSON.

Reference my teletype

~~REVID~~ DECEMBER ONE LAST UNDER CAPTION HOWARD HUGHES -
INFORMATION CONCERNING.

CONTACTED SAC LAS VEGAS TODAY. [REDACTED] HIGHLY UPSET OVER
MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE FROM LAS VEGAS OF MULTIMILLIONAIRE HOWARD
HUGHES ABOUT NOVEMBER TWENTY-SIX LAST. [REDACTED] DOES NOT BELIEVE
STATEMENT MADE BY HUGHES SPOKESMAN TO PRESS TO THE EFFECT THAT
HUGHES IS AWAY "ON A BUSINESS TRIP OF UNKNOWN DURATION AND
UNREVEALED DESTINATION". [REDACTED] OF THE OPINION THAT HUGHES
WAS ABDUCTED AND TRANSPORTED OUT OF THE STATE BY UNKNOWN PERSONS
POSSIBLY SEEKING TO GAIN CONTROL OF THE HUGE HUGHES BUSINESS
COMPLEX. [REDACTED] FEELS THAT UNDUE INFLUENCE IF NOT PHYSICAL
VIOLENCE IS BEING PERPETRATED UPON HUGHES IN AN ATTEMPT TO GAIN
ABDUCTORS FINANCIAL FAVOR.

END PAGE ONE

56 DEC 30 1970

EX-106

REC-79

62-99801-180

DEC 18 1970

10

PAGE TWO

[REDACTED] POINTED OUT HE IS AWARE THAT HUGHES IS IN EXTREMELY POOR PHYSICAL CONDITION AND IS HIGHLY SUSCEPTIBLE TO RESPIRATORY AILMENTS IF NOT CONFINED TO CONTROLLED CLIMATIC CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH HE HAS LIVED FOR SEVERAL YEARS IN DESERT INN QUARTERS AT LAS VEGAS. HE ALSO STATED THAT HE HAS CERTAIN KNOWLEDGE THAT HUGHES HAS FREQUENT MENTAL LAPSES FOR PERIODS UP TO SEVERAL WEEKS AT A TIME. HE SPECULATED THAT HE DOES NOT FEEL THAT HUGHES COULD HAVE DEPARTED LAS VEGAS OF HIS OWN VOLITION DUE TO HIS CURRENT PHYSICAL AND MENTAL CONDITION.

[REDACTED] STATED THIS INCIDENT COULD REPRESENT THE "BOLDEST KIDNAPING IN HISTORY" AND SPOKE OF CONTACTING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO ENLIST WHATEVER AID HE COULD AFFORD TO LOCATE HUGHES. [REDACTED] ALSO SPOKE OF THE SERIOUS EFFECT HUGHES' DISAPPEARANCE AND/OR DEPARTURE FROM LAS VEGAS COULD HAVE ON THE ECONOMY OF NEVADA. HE COMMENTED THAT THE FBI IS THE ONLY AGENCY AT LOCAL OR FEDERAL LEVEL CAPABLE OF CONDUCTING THE TYPE OF INVESTIGATION NEEDED IN THIS CASE.

END PAGE TWO

b7c

PAGE THREE

[REDACTED] IDENTIFIED NO SUSPECTS OTHER THAN FRANK W. GAY, LONG-TIME HUGHES TOOL CO. EXECUTIVE WHO FELL OUT OF FAVOR WITH HUGHES SEVERAL YEARS AGO. HE STATED GAY HAS RECENTLY ATTEMPTED TO GAIN CONTROL OF ALL EMPLOYEES ACTUALLY IN PERSONAL CONTACT WITH HUGHES ON A DAILY BASIS IN ORDER TO REGAIN A POSITION OF PROMINENCE IN THE HUGHES STRUCTURE. [REDACTED] INDICATED HE HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH TOP HUGHES COMPANY OFFICIALS IN TEXAS AND CALIFORNIA, HOWEVER, THE^y ALL REFER HIM TO ROBERT MAHEU, DIRECTOR OF HUGHES NEVADA OPERATIONS, FOR ANY COMMENT OR INFORMATION. ||

[REDACTED] STATED IN HIS OPINION THIS WAS CLEARLY A VIOLATION OF THE FEDERAL KIDNAPPING STATUTE AND THE FBI SHOULD INITIATE INVESTIGATION IMMEDIATELY. HE POINTED OUT [REDACTED] PLANS TO BREAK THE STORY OF THE KIDNAPING WITH A HEADLINE ARTICLE ABOUT DECEMBER FIVE NEXT AND SAID THE "LOS ANGELES TIMES" WILL RUN A SIMULTANEOUS HEADLINE STORY. [REDACTED] IS IN^{TO H} TOUCH WITH PRACTICALLY ALL FACETS OF THE NATIONAL NEWS MEDIA, WHICH ELEMENTS HAVE HELD OFF ON THE STORY UNTIL SUCH TIME [REDACTED] CONCLUDES WHETHER THERE IS BASIS

END PAGE THREE

b7c/D

PAGE FOUR

FOR A KIDNAPING STORY OF NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE. HE STATED THAT IN THE EVENT THE FBI HAD NOT INITIATED INVESTIGATION BY [REDACTED] [REDACTED] WOULD BE FORCED TO POINT OUT THAT THE FBI HAD BEEN ADVISED IN THIS MATTER AND "HAD REFUSED TO CONDUCT INVESTIGATION". [REDACTED] EXPRESSED KEEN DISAPPOINTMENT [REDACTED] WAS UNABLE TO GET IN TOUCH WITH MAHEU, INDICATING [REDACTED] FELT SURE MAHEU'S UNAVAILABILITY TO [REDACTED] CONTRIVED. b7c/d

[REDACTED] TODAY ADVISED THAT HE IS UNAWARE OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE OF HOWARD HUGHES OTHER² THAT^N HAVING VERIFIED THAT HE LEFT LAS VEGAS ABOUT NOVEMBER TWENTY-SIX LAST. HE STATED THAT THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE FIVE INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH HUGHES ON A DAILY BASIS ARE ALSO UNKNOWN. [REDACTED] COMMENTED THAT IT IS HIS OPINION THAT HUGHES WAS EITHER FORCED OR CONVINCED TO LEAVE UNDER MYSTERIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES BY PERSONS UNDER THE DIRECTION OF FRANK W. GAY AND CHESTER DAVIS, GENERAL COUNSEL OF HUGHES TOOL COMPANY. HE AGAIN POINTED OUT THAT DAVIS AND GAY IN HIS OPINION ARE b7c/d

END PAGE FOUR

PAGE FIVE

ATTEMPTING TO GAIN CONTROL OF THE COMPANY AND PROBABLY FELT THAT THEY MUST REMOVE HUGHES FROM THE INFLUENCE OF MAHEU IN ORDER TO ACCOMPLISH THEIR OBJECTIVE. HE POINTED OUT THAT THE FIVE INDIVIDUALS REFERRED TO ABOVE ARE UNDER VIRTUALLY THE COMPLETE CONTROL OF GAY WITHOUT THE KNOWLEDGE OF HUGHES. HE POINTED OUT THAT BY CONTROLLING THESE PEOPLE GAY AND DAVIS HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ALMOST COMPLETELY CONTROL ALL COMMUNICATION TO AND FROM HUGHES.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] b7d
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] STATED THAT CONTINUING INQUIRY HE HAS CONDUCTED SINCE HUGHES' DISAPPEARANCE HAS CONVINCED HIM THAT HUGHES IS CURRENTLY AT THE EMERALD BEACH HOTEL, NASSAU. HE POINTED OUT THAT AN ENTIRE FLOOR OF THE LATTER HOTEL AS WELL AS AN ENTIRE FLOOR OF THE BRITANNIA HOTEL HAVE BEEN RESERVED FOR HUGHES SINCE NINETEEN FIFTY-SEVEN. [REDACTED] AGREED THAT HE WOULD KEEP THIS OFFICE b7d
PROMPTLY ADVISED OF ANY FURTHER VERIFICATION OF HUGHES' PRESENCE
END PAGE FIVE

PAGE SIX

IN THE BAHAMAS AS WELL AS ANY OTHER SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT IN THIS MATTER.

THE ONLY BASIS FOR A CONCLUSION OF ABDUCTION IN THIS MATTER IS SHEER SPECULATION. BY [REDACTED] OWN ADMISSION HUGHES HAS FOR ABOUT A YEAR CONSIDERED THE POSSIBILITY OF A MOVE TO THE BAHAMAS. IT IS ALSO POINTED OUT THAT HUGHES HAS A LONG HISTORY OF MYSTERIOUS MOVEMENTS UNDER SECRETIVE CIRCUMSTANCES. ACCORDINGLY, LAS VEGAS WILL MAINTAIN APPROPRIATE LIAISON WITH [REDACTED] TO BE ADVISED OF FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS, BUT WILL CONDUCT NO INVESTIGATION IN THIS MATTER UNDER KIDNAPING OR OTHER FEDERAL STATUTES. b7c/b

ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WHICH [REDACTED] DESIRES TO FURNISH WILL, OF COURSE, BE ACCEPTED, HOWEVER, ANY INQUIRIES HE MAKES AS TO WHETHER WE ARE CONDUCTING ANY INVESTIATION IN THE MATTER WILL BE ANSWERED WITH NO COMMENT.

END

107-101-101

CONFIDENTIAL & UNCLASSIFIED

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Rosen

DATE: December 16, 1970

FROM : R. I. Shroder

- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. [REDACTED]
- 1 - Mr. Shroder
- 1 - Mr. [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: HOWARD HUGHES
INFORMATION CONCERNING -
MISSING PERSON

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

In connection with the recommendation set forth in memorandum A. Rosen to Mr. Sullivan, December 15, 1970, I called SAC Whittaker in Miami on December 15, 1970, and instructed him to make arrangements for two Miami Agents familiar with the Bahamas to proceed there on December 16, 1970, in order to locate and interview [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

SAC Whittaker was informed that background material, consisting of seven teletypes from the Las Vegas Office, was being sent to Miami that day by special courier and that the Washington Field Office would advise when this material was to arrive.

I told Whittaker that the purpose of these interviews was to determine whether or not the disappearance of Hughes would be in violation of any Federal law over which we had jurisdiction and that it should be made perfectly clear to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that we are not interested in the inner workings of the company nor the dispute which exists concerning the control of Hughes' Nevada operations. Signed statements should be obtained if at all possible.

I also talked to ASAC Dulinsky in Las Vegas and informed him that arrangements were being made for the Miami Office to send Agents to the Bahamas on December 16, 1970, to locate and interview [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Dulinsky said they had been endeavoring all day to determine the exact whereabouts of these two individuals; however, they had obtained no information in this regard. He said if any such information was developed later that evening, the Bureau would be immediately advised.

ACTION: This is submitted for record purposes.

RIS:jny
(5)

50 DEC 30 1970

REC 70

62-29801-19

FILE 67c

6-188

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Sullivan

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: HOWARD HUGHES
INFORMATION CONCERNING
MISSING PERSON

DATE: 12/7/70

1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. [REDACTED]
1 - Mr. [REDACTED]
1 - Mr. [REDACTED]
1 - Mr. Bishop

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

This relates to the reported mysterious disappearance of Howard Hughes, believed absent from Las Vegas, Nevada, since at least Thanksgiving night, 11/26/70.

ASAC Dulinsky, Las Vegas, was telephonically advised that we should not become involved in this case. He was also advised of our previous experience with Attorneys [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and that the Las Vegas Office should keep its distance from each of these attorneys.

ASAC Dulinsky advised the Las Vegas Office had received no additional information concerning the Hughes matter since the submission of their teletype of December 6, 1970.

Submitted for information.

JRM:mpd (7)

WCL. REC-35

62-99801-20

12 DEC 23 1970

62-99801-1318

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. DeLoach _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Bishop _____
Mr. Casper _____
Mr. Callahan _____
Mr. Conrad _____
Mr. Felt _____
Mr. Gale _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tavel _____
Mr. Walters _____
Mr. Soyars _____
Tele. Room _____
Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

TELETYPE

NR001 LV PLAIN

227 PM IMMEDIATE 12-6-70 GEJ

TO DIRECTOR ATTN: ASST. DIRECTOR A. ROSEN
FROM LAS VEGAS 62-582 4P

HOWARD HUGHES - INFORMATION CONCERNING - MISSING PERSON

REMYTELS DEC. ONE, FOUR AND FIVE, LAST.

NEVADA NEWS MEDIA CONTINUE TO HEADLINE ATTEMPTED TAKEOVER
OF "HOWARD HUGHES EMPIRE." NO VERIFIED CONFIRMATION OF

HUGHES WHEREABOUTS OR PHYSICAL CONDITION, HOWEVER, NEWS MEDIA
CONFIRM REPORT OF ROBERT MAHEU THAT HUGHES IN ^{Nevada} NASSAU AND ALIVE.

MAHEU HAS VERIFIED TO THIS OFFICE THAT HE RECEIVED TERMINATION
NOTICE, ALONG WITH TOP SECURITY AIDE JACK HOOPER. MAHEU STATES
SOME ONE HUNDRED FIFTY ODD PERSONS SCHEDULED FOR IMMEDIATE TERMINATION
COMPRISING VIRTUALLY ALL EXECUTIVE PERSONNEL IN NEVADA RESPONSIBLE
TO HIM UNDER HUGHES NEVADA OPERATIONS (HNO) ORGANIZATION. AS
PREVIOUSLY INDICATED, MAHEU HAS REFUSED TO ACCEPT TERMINATION ON
BASIS HE HAS NO PROOF THAT HUGHES HAS ACTUALLY DESIGNATED GENERAL
COUNSEL CHESTER C. DAVIS AND SR. VICE PRES. FRANK W. GAY, HUGHES
TOOL COMPANY TO TAKE OVER ENTIRE HUGHES OPERATIONS. MAHEU HAS
OBTAINED A TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER FROM CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

END PAGE ONE

REC-35

62-99801-21

12 DEC 23 1970

1-ENCLOSURE 60 JAN 13 1971

ST-111

58 DEC 30 1970

DISTRICT JUDGE PROHIBITING ANY AND ALL PARTIES FROM INTERFERING WITH NORMAL AND ORDERLY OPERATIONS OF HUGHES NEVADA OPERATIS. RESTRAINING ORDER IS IN TURN BEING LEGALLY CONTESTED BY DAVIS AND GAY. MAHEU HAS ALSO ISSUED FORMAL STATEMENT TO ALL EMPLOYEES THAT HE CONTINUES TO BE FULLY RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL HUGHES OPERATIONS IN NEV. DAVIS AND GAY ARE IN LAS VEGAS AND HAVE SET UP TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS IN SANDS HOTEL. MAHEU CONTINUES TO OPERATE FROM HNO HEADQUARTERS.

[REDACTED]

PAGE THREE

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

GOVERNOR PAUL LAXALT, NEVADA, PUBLICALLY QUOTED AS INDICATING ATTEMPTED TAKE-OVER OF HUGHES OPERATION BY DAVIS AND GAY OF GRAVE CONCERN TO NEVADA. STATED THAT SINCE MAHEU PEOPLE CURRENTLY LICENSED BY STATE AS KEY EMPLOYEES, ASSUMPTION OF AUTHORITY BY NEW GROUP MAY REQUIRE PERSONAL APPEARANCE AND JUSTIFICATION FOR CHANGE BY HUGHES. LAXALT WILL OF COURSE GO OUT OF OFFICE JANUARY ONE NEXT AND HAS IN PAST FEW MONTHS SHOWN RELUCTANCE TO BECOME INVOLVED IN CRITICAL SITUATIONS IF SAME CAN BE DEFERRED BEYOND HIS TERM OF OFFICE. INCOMING GOVERNOR DONAL O'CALLAGHAN QUOTED AS DEFERRING ANY COMMENT UNTIL HE ASSUMES OFFICE.

[REDACTED] ADVISED TODAY THAT PAT HYLAND, PRES. OF HUGHES AIRCRAFT CO., CALIF., HIGHLY UPSET OVER TAKE-OVER AND VERY SUSPICIOUS NEW FACTION NOT WITH HUGHES AUTHORITY. HYLAND AND MAHEU BOTH IN TOUCH WITH DEL WEBB IN MATTER SINCE WEBB IS LONG TIME CLOSE ACQUAINTANCE OF HUGHES AND IS ALSO HOLDER OF SUBSTANTIAL NEVADA INTERESTS. [REDACTED] REPORTED THAT WEBB HAS STATED HE WILL ATTEMPT TO CONFER WITH DIRECTOR IN THIS MATTER IN NEAR FUTURE. NO INDICATION AT THIS TIME WEBB WILL REQUEST ANY BUREAU INVOLVEMENT OR INVESTIGATION.

END PAGE THREE

[REDACTED]

PAGE FOUR

██████████ ALSO ADVISES EXECUTIVE VICE PRES AND DIRECTOR OF HUGHES
TOOL CO., RAYMOND M. HOLLIDAY, WHO IS PERHAPS ONE OF HUGHES CLOSEST
PERSONAL CONTACTS IN PAST, HAS RESIGNED FOR REASON HE BELIEVES
DAVIS - GAY TAKE-OVER IS NOT WITH HUGHES VALID CONSENT OR AUTHORITY. b7c

ABOVE FURNISHED BUREAU FOR INFORMATION. NO INQUIRY BEING
CONDUCTED OR COMMENTS BEING FURNISHED IN THIS MATTER BUT
INFORMATION OF PERTINENCE TO BUREAU INTERESTS BEING ACCEPTED.

END

LRC FBI WASH DC

CC-IT. JPM

December 7, 1970
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

This concerns the reported mysterious disappearance of Howard Hughes believed absent from Las Vegas, Nevada, since at least Thanksgiving night, 11/26/70.

H. M. Greenspun, publisher, "Las Vegas Sun," previously stated he was of opinion Hughes abducted or transported out of state by unknown persons possibly seeking to gain control of Hughes' business complex.

Greenspun published an article on 12/5/70 indicating 'Revolt within Hughes empire.' No mention of FBI in article.

previously alleged he believed Hughes either forced or convinced to leave Nevada by persons attempting to gain control of the company. Maheu and his top security assistant reportedly fired by telephone call made by Hughes in the Bahamas to his office in Las Vegas.

Attached relates company headed by [redacted] and [redacted] attorneys engaged on contract basis to operate security and certain management phases of Hughes' Nevada casino hotels. Pat Hyland, President, Hughes' Aircraft and Maheu in touch with Del Webb and allegedly Webb will attempt to confer with the Director re this matter in the near future.

Handwritten notes:
RJG:W
out of [redacted]
will [redacted]
to see Webb. At
We mandatory out of this. H. from them.
V Hostile to [redacted]
FBI. As [redacted]
W.C. [redacted]
road [redacted]
from them.

PLAINTEXT

12-17-70

TELETYPE

URGENT
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
1 - Mr. [REDACTED] b7c

R
ST
TO: SAC, SALT LAKE CITY

FROM: DIRECTOR, FBI

DEC 17 1970
9:00 PM
TELETYPE

HOWARD HUGHES, INFORMATION CONCERNING - MISSING
PERSON.

uv
REBUCAL TCDAY.

THIS WILL CONFIRM BUREAU TELEPHONE CALL TO SAC CALAME
TODAY INSTRUCTING THAT [REDACTED] BE IMMEDIATELY
INTERVIEWED FOR PURPOSE OF DETERMINING WHETHER OR NOT
DISAPPEARANCE OF HUGHES FROM LAS VEGAS, NEVADA, WAS IN
VIOLATION OF ANY FEDERAL LAW OVER WHICH BUREAU HAS
INVESTIGATIVE JURISDICTION. IT SHOULD BE MADE CLEAR TO

[REDACTED] WE ARE NOT INTERESTED IN INNER WORKINGS OF
HUGHES COMPANY NOR DISPUTE WHICH EXISTS CONCERNING

CONTROL OF HUGHES' NEVADA OPERATIONS. SIGNED STATEMENTS
SHOULD BE OBTAINED IF AT ALL POSSIBLE.

SUTEL RESULTS.

NOTE: Above confirms telephone call from SA [REDACTED] to SAC,
Salt Lake City, 12-17-70. b7c

BHC:jny
(3)

57 DEC 29 1970

TELETYPE UNIT

December 21, 1970
- GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

This matter concerns the struggle for power to control the Howard Hughes Nevada enterprises between the Robert A. Maheu and the Davis-Gay Factions.

Attached reports that U. S. District Court Judge has ruled in favor of the Davis-Gay Faction which is connected with the parent company, Hughes Tool Corporation.

HGR:erg

WJ

HR

MS

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

DEC 19 1970

TELETYPE

Mr. Spafford	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Brennan	CD _____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Walters	_____
Mr. Soyars	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

NR002 LV PLAIN

1:00 PM URGENT 12-19-70 RAL

TO DIRECTOR

FROM LAS VEGAS (62-582)

HOWARD HUGHES, INFORMATION CONCERNING - MISSING PERSON

Reference
REMYTEL NINETEENTH INSTANT.

REGARDING POWER STRUGGLE BETWEEN DAVIS - GAY FACTION AND
ROBERT MAHEU, IT HAS BEEN LEARNED NINETEENTH INSTANT THAT DISTRICT
COURT JUDGE HOWARD BARCOCK, LAS VEGAS, ON THIS DATE, RULED AGAINST
MAHEU AND FOR THE DAVIS - GAY FACTION.

END

QUOCFBRBOECWK;

REC-2

62-99801-23

DEB WA DC FBI CLR

4 DEC 29 1970

cc: Mr. Bishop
Mr. Gale

58 JAN 5 1971

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Sullivan

DATE: December 19, 1970

FROM : A. Rosen

- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. [REDACTED]
- 1 - Mr. [REDACTED]
- 1 - Mr. [REDACTED]
- 1 - Mr. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. Gale

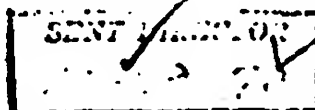
SUBJECT: HOWARD HUGHES
INFORMATION CONCERNING
MISSING PERSON

Reference is made to memorandum from A. Rosen to Mr. Sullivan dated 12-17-70, in which [REDACTED] volunteered information to our Las Vegas Office concerning [REDACTED] who was allegedly present when an individual believed to be Hughes was removed from his hotel in Las Vegas and taken to the airport. [REDACTED] also believed [REDACTED] named [REDACTED] to have first-hand information concerning Hughes's departure. [REDACTED] was allegedly hired for his assignment by Roy Crawford, a male secretary of Howard Hughes's, and a person believed to be Howard Eckersley, Hughes's personal secretary, was present at the time of Hughes's departure. Instructions were issued to interview [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] at once and then [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was located and he advised he had no personal knowledge of the matter and received his information from [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] advised Agents he was paid \$500 by an H. L. Crawford (possibly identical with Roy Crawford, a Hughes aide) to guard five automobiles at the exit of the Desert Inn Hotel in Las Vegas. He stated that about 1:40 a. m., 11-26-70, he saw four men exit the hotel and believes one to have been Hughes. This individual was heard to say "Will someone get Bob Maheu or Pat Hyland." (Hyland is head of Hughes Aircraft Company in California).

[REDACTED] was interviewed [REDACTED] and advised that Hughes decided to remove Robert Maheu as number one man in his Nevada enterprises because of Maheu's lavish spending over the past three years but considered placing him in another position with less authority. He stated on 11-14-70, Hughes signed a proxy giving the Hughes Tool Company authority to vote his stock. He said 14 months ago Hughes talked about moving and rented rooms at the Britannia Beach Hotel, Nassau, in the Bahamas, but only decided to leave Las Vegas approximately three days before his departure. He stated on 11-25-70, Hughes decided the time had come to remove Maheu and advised Eckersley that Maheu would be irrational when he received the news and he (Hughes) did not want to be present.

54 JBR 12-19-70



CONTINUED - OVER

6-2

Memorandum to Mr. Sullivan
RE: HOWARD HUGHES

[redacted] advised that at 8:30 p. m., 11-25-70, John Holmes, George Francom, LaVar Myler, Gordon Margolis and [redacted] took Hughes down a stairway through an apparel shop door and into a panel truck in the west parking lot of his hotel. He stated Hughes wore dark glasses and could hardly see so he was supported by his aides. He stated the only person Hughes spoke to was to say hello to Margolis after leaving the building. He stated they departed from Nellis Air Force Base, Las Vegas, which was arranged by Lockheed Aircraft Vice President Jack Real and that a group consisting of [redacted] Holmes, Francom, Myler, Carl Romm and Norman Crane accompanied Hughes to Nassau. He stated Crane is Hughes's physician and although Hughes was not ill, he wanted him present. He further advised that after arrival in the Bahamas, Hughes read Hank Greenspun article (publisher of Las Vegas Sun) alleging that he was kidnaped and advised the Hughes Tool Company director that the proxy should be executed immediately removing Maheu. He stated that Hughes is presently in the Bahamas with his aides b7c/d

[redacted] was interviewed by Bureau Agents in Miami, Florida, 12-18-70, and advised that he did not make the trip from Las Vegas to the Bahamas with the Hughes party and that he did not take part in the planning for the trip and did not learn of the details until he went back on duty, Sunday, 11-29-70, in Nassau. [redacted] advised that he does not know Forsythe and Welges and knows of no H. L. or H. G. Crawford. He stated that Hughes's trip to the Bahamas had been planned for over a year and the general details were known by Maheu and Hooper (another individual allegedly fired by Hughes). He stated the actual trip was changed at the last minute which was known only by the individuals taking part in the trip which did not include himself. b7c/d

[redacted] on 12-18-70, advised it was learned that Brigadier General H. K. Hansen, Commanding General, Nellis Air Force Base, had been asked by his superiors to explain why a civilian aircraft had been cleared for take off on the evening before Thanksgiving (11-25-70) [redacted] said it appears a colonel from the Judge Advocate General's Office had knowledge of this and an unknown captain apparently observed a man loaded into a civilian plane on a stretcher completely immobile at Nellis Air Force Base on the evening of 11-25-70. No information as to the identities of the colonel or captain is known. [redacted] said General Hansen testified in closed court session, 12-18-70. b7c/d

Memorandum to Mr. Sullivan
RE: HOWARD HUGHES

ACTION: On the basis of information given our Agents, it appears [REDACTED] allegations may not be valid; however, it is to be noted that the only way to be certain that Hughes was not kidnaped is to interview Hughes and ask him if he was, in fact, kidnaped.

If the Director wishes, this will be done.

No. Discontinue this
inquiry. & HLB

WES

✓
WES

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Sullivan *JS*

FROM : A. Rosen *AR*

SUBJECT: HOWARD HUGHES
INFORMATION CONCERNING -
MISSING PERSON

DATE: December 18, 1970

1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. [REDACTED]
1 - Mr. [REDACTED]
1 - Mr. [REDACTED]
1 - Mr. Bishop
1 - Mr. Gale

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. DeLoach _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Bishop _____
Mr. Casper _____
Mr. Callahan _____
Mr. Conrad _____
Mr. Felt _____
Mr. Gale _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sullivan _____
Mr. Tavel _____
Mr. Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

[REDACTED] and *H*

[REDACTED] *67c*

[REDACTED]

Right [REDACTED] Maheu is [REDACTED] a *67c/10*

very lavish spender, having built a residence in Las Vegas for himself which cost approximately \$800,000. [REDACTED] indicated Hughes has been disenchanted for several years and finally decided to fire Maheu after Maheu purchased an airplane without consulting Hughes, even though he knew Hughes wanted to select the plane himself. [REDACTED] accused Maheu of currently employing gangster tactics and hiring private detectives who were discovered in a hotel room below Hughes' suite in a Nassau hotel. [REDACTED] personally aided Hughes in leaving Las Vegas at Hughes' request. Efforts to locate [REDACTED] and interview him concerning specific details involving Hughes' departure from Las Vegas are continuing. Information has been received that [REDACTED] may have returned to the Bahamas. *67c/1*

Investigation in Las Vegas to locate [REDACTED] indicates the possibility he may be in hiding and, in all probability, he will be returning to the Bahamas in the near future. Information developed through immigration cards: *67c*

BHC:jny

SENT [REDACTED]

CONTINUED - OVER

53 JAN 1971

12-18-70

REC'D DEC 21 1970

Memorandum to Mr. Sullivan
Re: Howard Hughes

Nassau indicates [REDACTED] was not with the Hughes party upon its arrival in Nassau on Thanksgiving morning. Miami advised that the officials who met Hughes' plane in Nassau did not see Hughes, and the only persons who supposedly saw him are his staff members. 37c

[REDACTED]

ACTION: Efforts are continuing to locate and interview [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] 37c

Given Wed
11/16
✓

NR310 LV PLAIN

443 PM URGENT -12-7-70 KSG

TO DIRECTOR

MIAMI

FROM LAS VEGAS (92-3659) 4P

INTERNATIONAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICES, INC., AR.

see
REMYTELS TO BUREAU DECEMBER ONE, FOUR, FIVE, AND SIX LAST
UNDER CAPTION HOWARD HUGHES - INFORMATION CONCERNING - MISSING PERSON.

RETELS SET FORTH INFORMATION PERTAINING TO MYSTERIOUS AND
HIGHLY CONTROVERSIAL DISAPPEARANCE OF MULTIMILLIONAIRE HOWARD
HUGHES FROM LAS VEGAS ABOUT NOVEMBER TWENTYSIX LAST. SUMMARY OF
POWER STRUGGLE WITHIN HUGHES BUSINESS COMPLEX RESULTING IN
ATTEMPTED OUSTER OF ROBERT MAHEU, DIRECTOR OF HUGHES NEVADA
OPERATIONS, BY HUGHES TOOL CO. OFFICIALS CHESTER C. DAVIS AND
FRANK W. GAY SET FORTH. IN CONNECTION WITH ATTEMPTED TAKE OVER
BY DAVIS - GAY FACTION RETEL DECEMBER SIX REPORTED ANNOUNCEMENT
BY DAVIS AND GAY THAT "INTERTEL" WILL BE ENGAGED ON CONTRACT
BASIS TO OPERATE SECURITY AND CERTAIN MANAGEMENT PHASES OF NEVADA
CASINO-HOTELS OWNED BY HUGHES. PELOQUIN AND NUMBER OF OTHER
END PAGE ONE

56 DEC 18 1970

62-99801-
NOT RECORDED
44 DEC 10 1970

ORIGINAL FILED IN
62-113468-5

PAGE TWO

INTERTEL OFFICIALS AND/OR EMPLOYEES ARE IN LAS VEGAS, REPORTEDLY AWAITING AUTHORIZATION TO ASSUME COMPLETE SECURITY RESPONSIBILITY FOR HUGHES CASINO-HOTELS.

INTERTEL IS CODE NAME FOR INTERNATIONAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICES, INC., HEADED BY ROBERT D. PELOQUIN, PRESIDENT. PELOQUIN FURTHER IDENTIFIED IN PRESS AS FORMER CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE'S FIRST ORGANIZED CRIME STRIKE FORCE. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

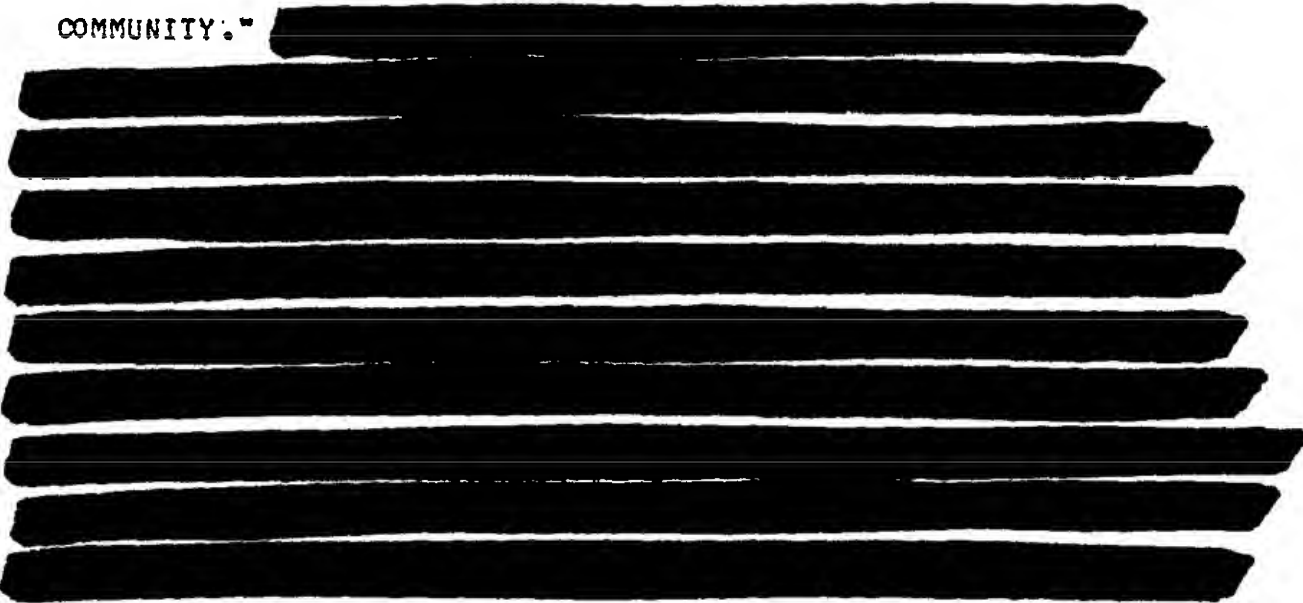
b7c/D

[REDACTED] BOTH HUNDLEY AND PELOQUIN ARE OFFICERS IN PARADISE ENTERPRISES LIMITED, A SUBSIDIARY OF RESORTS INTERNATIONAL, INC., ACCORDING TO BROCHURE ON INTERTEL. INTERTEL FURTHER DESCRIBED AS DELAWARE CORPORATION FOUNDED JANUARY, [REDACTED]

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

NINETEEN SEVENTY, "TO CONDUCT AND CARRY ON A MANAGEMENT, ADVISORY AND CONSULTING BUSINESS RELATING TO THE PROTECTION OF BUSINESS FIRMS OF EVERY TYPE AND DESCRIPTION FROM THE INFILTRATION, INCURSION ATTACK, AND INFLUENCE OF CRIME AND CRIMINALS, AND TO AID, ASSIST, AND IN ALL RESPECTS COOPERATE WITH GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES ON A LOCAL, STATE, AND FEDERAL LEVEL IN THE ELIMINATION OF CRIME AND ITS INFLUENCE IN ALL ASPECTS OF THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY."



END PAGE THREE

b7c

PAGE FOUR

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] b7c/d

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] AN OFFICIAL OF HUGHES NEVADA

OPERATIONS [REDACTED] HAS STATED THAT MARY CARTER b7D

PAINT COMPANY AND RESORTS INTERNATIONAL MAY POSSIBLY BE HOODLUM

INFILTRATED OR FINANCIALLY INDEBTED TO MEYER LANSKY.

END

GMV WASH DC FBI TU CUL

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

DEC 17 1970

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Bishop	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

NR005 PLAIN

7-52PM URGENT 12/17/70 LSB

TO: DIRECTOR

SAC, LAS VEGAS

FROM: SAC, SALT LAKE CITY (79-102) 5P

HOWARD HUGHES, INFORMATION CONCERNING - MISSING PERSON

END PAGE

53 JAN 7 1971

MR. SULLIVAN FOR THE DIRECTOR

12/17/70
MR. Sullivan
PER [Signature]
FBI

PAGE TWO

SU 79-182

[REDACTED] b7c/d
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] DISPUTE BETWEEN
HUGHES AND MAHEU DEVELOPED WHEN MAHEU INDICATED INTEREST IN PUR-
CHASING AN AIRCRAFT FOR HUGHES NEVADA ENTERPRISES AND HUGHES
REPORTEDLY TOLD MAHEU HE, HUGHES, WAS BETTER QUALIFIED THAN ANYONE
TO SELECT AND PURCHASE THE AIRCRAFT. MAHEU APPARENTLY WENT AHEAD
AND PURCHASED AIRCRAFT, CAUSING HUGHES TO BECOME EXTREMELY ANGRY.
HAYES CONTINUED HUGHES HAD BEEN DISENCHANTED WITH MAHEU FOR
LAST THREE YEARS BECAUSE MAHEU SPENT MONEY LAVISHLY TO BUILD
MAHEU'S IMAGE. [REDACTED] HUGHES WANTED b7c/d
TO GET OUT OF LAS VEGAS WITHOUT KNOWLEDGE OF MAHEU. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] HUGHES WENT TO BOSTON SOMETIME IN PAST WITH
SECURITY FOR TRIP ARRANGED BY MAHEU AND THEY WERE HOUNDED BY
NEWSMEN ON ENTIRE TRIP.

END PAGE TWO

62-99801-26

PAGE THREE

SU 79-102

MAHEU'S

ASSOCIATES HAD "BUGGED" HUGHES' OFFICES AND WERE ACTING "LIKE A
BUNCH OF GANGSTERS. [REDACTED] INDICATED HE HAD ALWAYS HAD HIGHEST
REGARD FOR FBI EMPLOYEES AND HUGHES HAD THIS OPINION ALSO BUT
END PAGE THREE

SU 79-102

570/0

SAID FURTHER THAT MANY PEOPLE HAVE INDICATED TO HIM HUGHES COULD PERSONALLY APPEAR AND DISPEL QUESTIONS ABOUT FIRING OF MAHEU. [REDACTED] INDICATED HUGHES ALIVE AND SAFE BUT HUGHES WANTED TO STAY OUT OF CONTROVERSY.

END PAGE FOUR

SU 79-102

NO DISSIMINATION OF ABOVE INFORMATION

HOLD AJAP FBI WASH DC

CC-MR. EISEN

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

DEC 17 1970

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Brennan	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Walters	_____
Mr. Soyars	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

NR098 LV PLAIN

834 PM URGENT 12-17-70 GEJ

TO DIRECTOR, MIAMI, AND SALT LAKE CITY
FROM LAS VEGAS 62-582 1P

HOWARD HUGHES - INFORMATION CONCERNING. MISSING PERSON

Reference Teletype December
RE MIAMI TEL TO DIRECTOR AND LAS VEGAS DEC. SIXTEEN LAST.

INVESTIGATION LAS VEGAS AND SALT LAKE CITY INDICATES

[REDACTED] IN SALT LAKE CITY. [REDACTED] WILL BE INTERVIEWED
SALT LAKE CITY WHEN LOCATED.

INVESTIGATION LAS VEGAS CONTINUING.

REC-65

DEC 31 1970

EN

HOD HOLD

56 JAN 14 1971

62-99801-27

6-12

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Brennan	CD
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Walters	_____
Mr. Soyars	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

NR019 NM PLAIN

7:13PM N1.EL 12-17-70 JPD

TO DIRECTOR

LAS VEGAS

FROM MIAMI (62-6078)

^{D 4}
HOWARD HUGES, INFORMATION CONCERNING, MISSING PERSON.

Reference

RE MIAMI TELETYPE TO BUREAU TWELVE SIXTEEN LAST, MIAMI
TELEPHONE CALLS TO LAS VEGAS AND BUREAU INSTANT.

THREE ZERO TWO'S WILL FOLLOW TO LAS VEGAS.

56 JAN 14 1971

REC-65

62-99801-28

DEC 31 1970

6-12

December 22, 1970
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

Attached sets forth extensive information
furnished Las Vegas by [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] concerning the power struggle for con-
trol of Howard Hughes's Nevada interests.

87c/6

FJH:erg

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Bishop	✓
Mr. Casper	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. Felt	✓
Mr. Gale	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Mr. Tele. Room	✓
Miss Holmes	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

NR 11 LV PLAIN
 10:01 PM URGENT 12-11-70 RAL
 VTO DIRECTOR
 FROM LAS VEGAS (62-582) 1P

HOWARD HUGHES, INFORMATION CONCERNING - MISSING PERSON.

REMYTELS DECEMBER ONE, FOUR, FIVE, SIX, AND EIGHT LAST.

THE POWER STRUGGLE FOR CONTROL OF HUGHES' NEVADA INTERESTS
 BETWEEN CHESTER DAVIS - FRANK GAY (HUGHES TOOL CO.) AND ROBERT
 BAKER (HUGHES NEVADA OPERATIONS) CONTINUES. LOCAL COURT HEARINGS
 BEING CONDUCTED DAILY TO ESTABLISH AUTHENTICITY OF DOCUMENTS
 SUPPOSEDLY EMANATING FROM HUGHES PERSONALLY IN THIS MATTER.
 PRESS COVERAGE EXTENSIVE WITH MAJOR HEADLINES IN LAS VEGAS NEWS-
 PAPERS ON DAILY BASIS.

NOT RETAINED IN PERSONNEL RECORDS UNIT

[REDACTED]

FURNISHED

FOLLOWING INFORMATION TODAY:

REC-1

62-99801-29

ON DECEMBER TEN LAST HIS OFFICE RECEIVED MYSTERIOUS MESSAGE
 TO CONTACT AN UNKNOWN INDIVIDUAL AT A TELEPHONE NUMBER IN LOS
 ANGELES. UPON MAKING CONTACT AT THIS NUMBER [REDACTED] WAS ADVISED BY

[REDACTED] THAT HE WOULD PUT HIM IN TOUCH WITH ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL

END PAGE ONE

53 JAN 7 1971

XEROX
 JAN 6 1971

SENT BY TELETYPE
 12-12-70

6-72
 PERM. FILE UNIT

PAGE TWO

WHOM HE WOULD NOT IDENTIFY WHO HE FELT WAS A PARTICIPANT IN THE "ABDUCTION" OF HOWARD HUGHES. UPON MAKING TELEPHONE CONTACT WITH THE LATTER UNKNOWN MALE, WHO WOULD IDENTIFY HIMSELF AS "LMK",

[REDACTED] WAS TOLD THIS INDIVIDUAL HAD BEEN CONSULTING WITH [REDACTED] AND HAD DECIDED THAT HE WOULD DIVULGE INFORMATION IN HIS POSSESSION IN THIS MATTER AT THIS TIME INASMUCH AS HE WAS FEARFUL FOR HIS PERSONAL SAFETY. b7c/D

[REDACTED] ARRANGED TO TRAVEL FROM LAS VEGAS TO LOS ANGELES AND MEET [REDACTED] AND THE PREVIOUSLY UNIDENTIFIED MALE IN THE PENTHOUSE LOUNGE OF THE INTERNATIONAL HOTEL, LOS ANGELES, AT ABOUT EIGHT PM DECEMBER TEN LAST. THE UNKNOWN MAN AT THIS TIME IDENTIFIED HIMSELF

[REDACTED] IDENTIFIED HIMSELF [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] INDICATED THAT IN TRAVEL TO LAS VEGAS ON PERSONAL BUSINESS OVER THE YEARS HE BECAME ACQUAINTED WITH AN INDIVIDUAL WHO WORKED IN THE CASHIERS CAGE AT THE STARDUST HOTEL, NAMED GIL (LAST NAME UNKNOWN) (POSSIBLY GILBERT COSKEY, A FORMER
END PAGE TWO b7c/D

PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

CASHIER AT THE STARDUST). THROUGH GIL [REDACTED] MET ROY CRAWFORD, ONE OF THE MALE SECRETARIES WHO HAS LONG BEEN EMPLOYED BY HOWARD HUGHES AND ATTENDED HIM PERSONALLY IN HIS ISOLATED PENTHOUSE AT THE DESERT INN. ABOUT A MONTH AGO [REDACTED] RECEIVED A CALL FROM CRAWFORD STATING HE MIGHT HAVE A JOB FOR HIM, BUT DID NOT FURTHER IDENTIFY THE JOB. [REDACTED] LATER RECEIVED A CALL FROM CRAWFORD TO COME TO THE DESERT INN HOTEL IN LAS VEGAS ON NOVEMBER TWENTY-SIX. [REDACTED] DID THIS AND AT THAT TIME ACCEPTED AN ASSIGNMENT FROM CRAWFORD FOR FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS AND THE PROMISE OF FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS MORE AT A LATER DATE. [REDACTED] JOB WAS TO GUARD APPROXIMATELY SIX CARS PARKED IN THE NORTH PARKING LOT OF THE DESERT INN HOTEL. HE WAS TO MAKE SURE THE CARS REMAINED SECURE AND WERE AT NO TIME BLOCKED BY OTHER VEHICLES. [REDACTED] KNEW NONE OF SEVERAL OTHER INDIVIDUALS OBVIOUSLY INVOLVED ON THE SAME ASSIGNMENT, HOWEVER, ALL WORE A PECULIAR TYPE OF BUTTON IN THEIR LAPEL TO IDENTIFY THEMSELVES. THE ONLY INFORMATION ON THE ASSIGNMENT WHICH [REDACTED] RECEIVED WAS THAT AN INDIVIDUAL WHO WAS ILL HAD TO BE MOVED FROM THE HOTEL.

3740

END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

AT APPROXIMATELY TWO AM NOVEMBER TWENTY-SEVEN LAST TWO MEN
EXITED A FIRE ESCAPE DOORWAY FROM THE HOTEL IN THE VICINITY OF
THE SIX PARKED CARS. THESE TWO MEN WERE EITHER HELPING OR
CARRYING A SMALLER INDIVIDUAL, WHO APPEARED EITHER TO BE ILL OR
EXTREMELY WEAK AND WAS DRESSED ONLY IN PAJAMAS AND A ROBE. ONE
MALE INDIVIDUAL FOLLOWED THESE TWO MEN ^{AND ALTHOUGH UNKNOWN} ~~AND~~ ^{TO} ~~WENT~~
HIM, [REDACTED] ACCORDING TO [REDACTED] DESCRIBED THE INDIVIDUAL IN
SUCH DETAIL THAT [REDACTED] CONCLUDED THIS INDIVIDUAL WAS HOWARD
ECKERSLEY, HUGHES' PERSONAL SECRETARY. AS THE MAN WAS BEING

47/D

HELPED OR CARRIED SOME FIFTEEN TO TWENTY YARDS TO A WAITING
VEHICLE, HE APPEARED TO ATTEMPT TO TURN TOWARD [REDACTED] AND OTHER
PERSONS STANDING IN THE AREA AND IN A FAIRLY LOUD VOICE EXCLAIMED
"GET ME BOB MAHEU OR PAT HYLAND". NO RESPONSE WAS GIVEN BY ANYONE,
AND THE MAN WAS EITHER HELPED OR FORCED INTO ONE OF THE WAITING
CARS. IT IS NOTED THAT PAT HYLAND IS HEAD OF HUGHES' AIRCRAFT
COMPANY, CALIFORNIA. AND IS A LONG-TIME FRIEND AND ASSOCIATE OF
HUGHES.

END PAGE FOUR

PAGE FIVE

THE SIX CARS THEN PROCEEDED FROM THE PARKING LOT IN PROCESSION WITH ABOUT THREE OR FOUR MALE INDIVIDUALS IN EACH CAR. THE MAN WHO HAD BEEN HELPED OR CARRIED INTO THE CAR RODE IN EITHER THE FIRST OR SECOND CAR. [REDACTED] RODE IN THE FOURTH CAR. ALL CARS PROCEEDED ALONG LAS VEGAS BOULEVARD UNTIL THEY APPEARED TO BE APPROACHING AN AIRPORT [REDACTED] STATED HE OBSERVED A FLASHING AIRPORT-TYPE LIGHT). POSSIBLY HUGHES AIRTERMINAL, LAS VEGAS. A SHORT DISTANCE FROM THE AIRPORT THE THIRD CAR IN THE PROCESSION STOPPED, AS DID ALL CARS BEHIND SAME. A MAN EXITED THE THIRD CAR AND CAME BACK AND TOLD ALL OCCUPANTS OF THE CARS IN THE REAR TO RETURN TO THE STRIP AREA AND GO ABOUT THEIR OWN PURSUITS. MEANWHILE THE FIRST AND SECOND CARS IN THE PROCESSION HAD PROCEEDED IN THE DIRECTION OF THE AIRPORT. [REDACTED] STATES HE RETURNED TO HIS HOTEL AND THE FOLLOWING DAY LEFT LAS VEGAS.

b7c/b

IT WAS NOT UNTIL [REDACTED] READ NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS THAT HE CONCLUDED THAT THE INDIVIDUAL WHOM HE HAD OBSERVED BEING LOADED INTO A CAR IN LAS VEGAS ON THE MORNING OF NOVEMBER TWENTY-SEVEN

END PAGE FIVE

14

LAST WAS HOWARD HUGHES.

END PAGE SIX

67c/d

PAGE SEVEN

SUCCESSFUL CONTRACTOR WHO IS PROBABLY WORTH A HALF A MILLION DOLLARS. [REDACTED] FURTHER STATED THAT [REDACTED] HAS COMMENTED THAT HE FEELS BOTH HE AND [REDACTED] SHOULD GO TO THE FBI WITH THEIR STORY, INASMUCH AS THEY FEEL THAT [REDACTED] UNDOUBTEDLY PARTICIPATED UNKNOWNINGLY IN THE REMOVAL OF HUGHES FROM THE DESERT INN HOTEL. AGAINST HIS WILL. NO SUBSTANTIATION FOR THIS CONCLUSION CAN BE GIVEN OTHER THAN FOR THE SECRETIVE NATURE UNDER WHICH THE DEPARTURE TOOK PLACE, AND THE REPORTED CALL THE INDIVIDUAL MADE IN THE PARKING LOT FOR MAHEU OR HYLAND. [REDACTED] ADMITS HE HAS NO IDEA WHAT HAPPENED FOLLOWING THE TIME THE VEHICLE IN WHICH HE WAS RIDING DEPARTED THE PROCESSION TO THE AIRPORT. IT IS ALSO TO BE NOTED THAT TWO AM ON NOVEMBER TWENTY-SEVEN IS ABOUT TWENTY-FOUR HOURS LATER THAN PREVIOUS REPORTS OF HUGHES' DEPARTURE FROM THE DESERT INN. b7c/d

NO COMMENT WAS MADE TO [REDACTED] AS TO WHAT ACTION THIS BUREAU WOULD OR WOULD NOT TAKE IN CONNECTION WITH THE INFORMATION HE FURNISHED, AND HE DID NOT MAKE ANY REQUEST TO BE ADVISED OF SAME. END PAGE SEVEN b7c/d

PAGE EIGHT

HE POINTED OUT THAT NO PUBLICITY HAD BEEN GIVEN THIS MATTER THUS FAR AND NONE WAS ANTICIPATED AT THIS TIME THAT HE KNEW OF. HE STATED HE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER [REDACTED] AND [REDACTED] PLANNED TO CONTACT THE FBI WITH THIS INFORMATION, BUT STATED THEY HAD CONTEMPLATED DOING THIS. HE DID NOT INDICATE THAT ANY RECOMMENDATION WOULD BE MADE BY HIM OR THE MAHEU FACTION AS TO WHETHER [REDACTED] AND [REDACTED] SHOULD MAKE A PERSONAL REPORT TO THE FBI.

NO IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION LOS ANGELES INDICES CONCERNING EITHER [REDACTED] OR [REDACTED] AND THEY ARE NOT LISTED IN CURRENT LOS ANGELES PHONE BOOK. 3740

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE BUREAU, ALL FACETS OF THE HUGHES MATTER CONTINUE TO BE PROMINENTLY PUBLICIZED IN THE PRESS. IN VIEW OF THE NEBULOUS NATURE OF THE INFORMATION REPORTEDLY BEING FURNISHED BY [REDACTED] AND [REDACTED] AND THE LACK OF ANY MORE SPECIFIC FACETS TO INDICATE AN ACTUAL ABDUCTION, NO FURTHER INQUIRY WILL BE MADE INTO THIS MATTER AT THIS TIME BY LAS VEGAS. IT IS NOT FELT THAT THE INFORMATION PRESENTED SETS FORTH SUFFICIENT INDICATION OF

END PAGE EIGHT

PAGE NINE

A FEDERAL VIOLATION TO WARRANT OUR SEEKING OUT [REDACTED] AND [REDACTED] FOR INTERVIEW. IN THE EVENT THEY VOLUNTARILY APPEAR AT THIS OFFICE, LAS VEGAS WILL ACCEPT AND EVALUATE ANY AND ALL INFORMATION THEY FURNISH AND WILL MAKE FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE BUREAU PRIOR TO CONDUCTING ANY INVESTIGATION IN THE HUGHES MATTER.

As I have indicated [REDACTED] & [REDACTED] should be interviewed at once & then we can re-evaluate the whole matter & decide what to do. I agree both [REDACTED] & [REDACTED] neither of whom I have laid on our desks.
ADDENDUM: [REDACTED]

HANK GREENSPUN, PUBLISHER, LAS VEGAS SUN, CONTACTED SAC [REDACTED] LAS VEGAS LATER TODAY. INQUIRED AS TO WHETHER THIS OFFICE WAS AWARE OF A REPORT THAT A GUARD HAD BEEN LOCATED WHO PARTICIPATED IN REMOVAL OF HUGHES IN AM, ELEVEN TWENTY-SEVEN SEVENTY FROM DESERT INN AGAINST HIS WILL. WHEN QUERIED AS TO WHAT INFORMATION HE POSSESSED, GREENSPUN RELATED SAME BASIC STORY AS DID [REDACTED] ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT FURNISH, OR APPEAR TO POSSESS, OTHER THAN THE BASIC FACTS. GREENSPUN STATED HE WAS FURNISHING THESE ADDITIONAL DATA BECAUSE HE FELT THE FBI SHOULD CONDUCT INVESTIGATION IN THIS MATTER UNDER THE KIDNAPPING STATUTE. NO COMMENT WAS MADE TO GREENSPUN OTHER THAN THAT THE INFORMATION HE FURNISHED WOULD BE MADE A MATTER OF RECORD AND EVALUATED IN CONNECTION WITH ANY

END PAGE NINE

PAGE TEN

FEDERAL VIOLATION WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THIS BUREAU.

END

DCW

FBI WASH DC CLR

cc: Mr. Bishop

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

DEC 17 1970

TELETYPE

Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Brennan	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Walters	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

NR001 PM PLAINTEXT

1233AM IMMEDIATE 12-16-70 MAM

TO DIRECTOR

LAS VEGAS (62-592)

FROM MIAMI (62-)

HOWARD HUGHES, INFORMATION CONCERNING - MISSING PERSON.

REFERENCE BUAIRTEL TO MIAMI AND TEL CALL, TWELVE FIVE LAST
AND MIAMI TEL CALL, INSTANT DATE.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] IN LAS VEGAS AT JUDICIAL HEARING, AND PLANS TO
STAY REST OF WEEK AT HIS RESIDENCE.

HUGHES. ALLEGED TO BE IN NINTH FLOOR SUITE AT BRITTANIA

BEACH HOTEL, PARADISE ISLAND, NASSAU, AND SPENT THE DAY DIS-
TATING TO AIDE.

END PAGE ONE

60 JAN 13 1971
BHC:HC

FOR SOLUTION FOR THE DIRECTOR

PERS. REC. UNIT

PAGE TWO

[REDACTED]

b1

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

[REDACTED] #1
HUGHES AIDE [REDACTED] INTERVIEWED AND ADVISED HE PERSONALLY DEPARTED LAS VEGAS, NEVADA WITH HUGHES, AND HE PERSONALLY KNEW ALL PERSONS TAKING PART IN THE ENTOURAGE. DENIED KNOWING FORSYTHE, AND DISCREDITED STORY OF ABDUCTION AND DETAILS SURROUNDING DEPARTURE FROM LAS VEGAS, NEVADA. [REDACTED] STATES ECKERSLEY TOOK PART IN TRIP TO BAHAMAS, BUT CRAWFORD WAS NOT A PARTICIPANT. [REDACTED] STATES HUGHES IS AT BRITANNIA BEACH HOTEL AND REMAINS IN FULL CONTROL OF FACULTIES AND BUSINESS INTERESTS. b7c

END

DCW

FBI WASH DC CLR

CC-MR. ROSEN

ccs - Bishop & Gale

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Sullivan

DATE: December 17, 1970

FROM : Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. Sullivan

1 - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. [REDACTED]

1 - Mr. [REDACTED]

1 - Mr. [REDACTED]

1 - Mr. Bishop

1 - Mr. Gale

SUBJECT: HOWARD HUGHES
INFORMATION CONCERNING -
MISSING PERSON

In connection with the power struggle for control of Howard Hughes's Nevada interests, [REDACTED] volunteered information to our Las Vegas Office concerning a [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] who was allegedly present when an individual believed to be Hughes was removed from his hotel in Las Vegas and taken to the airport. [REDACTED] also believed [REDACTED] to have first hand information concerning Hughes's departure. Pursuant to instructions that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] should be interviewed, [REDACTED] was located, and he advised he had no personal knowledge of the matter and received his information from [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] advised Agents he was paid \$500 by an H. L. Crawford (possibly identical with Roy Crawford, a Hughes aide) to guard five automobiles at the exit of the Desert Inn Hotel in Las Vegas. He stated that about 1:40 a. m. 11/26/70, he saw four men exit the hotel and believes one to have been Hughes. This individual was heard to say "Will someone get Bob Maheu or Pat Hyland." (Hyland is head of Hughes Aircraft Company in California).

From description furnished by [REDACTED] believed one individual leaving hotel with Hughes was Howard Ekersley, aide to Hughes. Las Vegas believed [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to be in the Bahamas, and pursuant to instructions that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were to be interviewed, Miami dispatched two Agents to the Bahamas 12/16/70.

Information was developed that both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are in the U. S. now and that [REDACTED] is scheduled to appear at Court proceedings in Las Vegas. [REDACTED] another Hughes aide, was interviewed and states he departed Las Vegas at Nassau, Bahamas.

BHC:bkc
(8)

REC 74

CONTINUED - OVER, DEC 21 1970

SENT IN 12/17/70

12-17-70

58 JAN 1971

PEPS. P. O. U. C. F.

Rosen to Sullivan
RE: HOWARD HUGHES

with Hughes and discredited the story of the abduction and details surrounding Hughes's departure from Las Vegas. [REDACTED] states Hughes is at the Britannia Beach Hotel in Nassau and that Hughes remains in full control of his faculties and his business interests. b7c

[REDACTED]

b1

ACTION: Bureau indices being reviewed on the above individuals who were deported from the Bahamas. Investigation is being conducted to locate and interview [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] in the United States. b7c

WEL R- 31.12 17.10
CAM
5
✓
12.15
12

FBI

Date: 12/16/70

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
 FROM: SAC, LAS VEGAS (62-582) (P)
 SUBJECT: HOWARD HUGHES
 INFORMATION CONCERNING - MISSING PERSON

Remytel to the Director and Miami, 12/15/70.

Enclosed herewith for the information of the Bureau
 and Miami are Xerox copies of signed statement furnished by
 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

2 - Bureau (Enc. 2)
 2 - Miami (Enc. 2)
 1 - Las Vegas
 RDL:sf
 (5)

REC-83

62-99801-32

DEC 21 1970

Approved: [Signature]

Sent _____

M

Per _____

53 JAN 15 1971 Special Agent in Charge

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET29

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7c + b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

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☐ For your information: _____

- ☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

62-99801-32 Enclosures.

XXXXXX
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 X DELETED PAGE(S) X
 X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
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TRUE COPY

Feb 25, 1971

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington D. C.

Dear Sirs,

I am wondering about Howard Hughes. They say he has been located, but no one has really seen him in person at his quarters or his lodging place to identify him. I think he isn't alive. The Crooks and swindlers have him under their control, if he is alive like being kidnaped and doped, Please for (illegible) act and Justice fairly Please investigate and trace out and track it through search - carefully to uncover the facts to determine the truth. Please do not let these swindlers get by and make a fool out of ever one - get behind them I truly trust you will search at once and one of your ~~men~~ Men will see Mr Howard Hughes in person and take him from the swindleers and let him live a normal life and be his self, like god intended I pray and trust you do this at once he pay you all for your work and investigation when he is his self.

Sincerely

Federal Bureau Investigation

Dear Sirs,

If it takes a dozen men to go, and see Howard Hughes in person, OK - Please follow this investigation through, and if it takes a dozen men and if in danger, Please then call the army - do not let these swindlers get by -

TRUE
COPY

(illegible) & Your,

PS Howard Hughes would not be losing money and ever thing if there werent something wrong --

EX-114

REC-80

MAR 4 1971

Federal Reserve Bank of New York
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To a distinguished friend, who
 has not alone, but

Arctostaphylos *Uva-ursi*
Arctostaphylos *Uva-ursi*

Udromyces and *Myrmica* *Udromyces*
in *Myrmica* *Udromyces* *Myrmica*

Then and I signed out
and took it. The right side of

CORRESPONDENCE

to uncover the facts to determine
the truth. Please do not let these
swindlers get by and make a
fool out of anyone. Give me
more I truly trust you will
search at once and out of
your men will see the
fraud in person and take them
from the swindlers and let
them live a normal life and
be free self. Since God intended
it pray and trust you do this at
once he pray you all for your
work and investigation when
he is his self.

Amcough



PA
next pg 3

2
didn't notice anything

then

if it looks like

go and see what

person is

investigation through one of

a dozen men and of

then call the army - do not let

enemies get by

Go home

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Do Howard again will

looking for and

What something wrong

57c

March 3, 1971

REC-89

EX-114

62-99801-33

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of February 25th has been received and the concern which prompted you to write is understandable. However, this Bureau has received no indication that Mr. Howard Hughes has been kidnaped.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

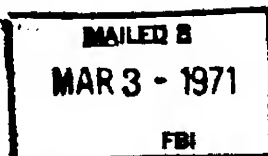
NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of correspondent.

[REDACTED] cmg (3)

cmg

Tolson _____
Sullivan _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Brennan, C.D. _____
Callahan _____
Casper _____
Conrad _____
Dalbey _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Tavel _____
Walters _____
Soyars _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

MAR 3 10 12 AM '71



MAR 12 1971

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Handwritten notes and signatures:
- "JPM" (vertical)
- "FBI" (vertical)
- "MAR 3 11 00 AM '71" (stamp)
- "FBI" (stamp)
- "RECEIVED-10120R" (stamp)
- "TEB" (handwritten)
- "gen" (handwritten)
- "ip" (handwritten)
- "4718" (handwritten)
- "67c" (handwritten)

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

MEMORANDUM

November 12, 1971

To: Office of Congressional Liaison
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

From: John J. McFall, Member of Congress

Attached is a copy of a newspaper article from the Modesto Bee, Modesto, Calif., suggesting a Federal investigation of an incident involving Howard Hughes and his interests in Nevada, sent to me by a constituent who agrees with such action.

It would be appreciated if I could be advised as to the possibility of such investigation by the Department.

① DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL
② FEDERAL BU. OF INV.

John J. McFall

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
10 NOV 15 1971
R.A.C.
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL
FEDERAL BU. OF INV.

ack
11/19/71

J. McFall

8/10/71

John

EX-112

REC-15

62-99801-34

NOV 22 1971

ENCLOSURE

81

Modesto Bee 11/8/71
Help For Hughes

Editor of The Bee—Sir: According to newspaper reports, Howard Hughes was taken from his Las Vegas residence on a stretcher. One parking lot attendant swore he heard a call for help.

Now, in this almost unbelievable episode there is a fingerprinted letter from Hughes changing his controlling interest in Nevada.

I do not care what the Nevada authorities say, and they could be money blinded. A man's fingerprints could be forcibly placed on any letter or document.

If an ordinary citizen disappeared under the same circumstances, the Federal Bureau of Investigation would be quick to investigate.

The question could be, "Does the US Government share in this huge estate, or, did the Nevada gambling interests divide it up?"

Hughes has a billion reasons for loving his country. I am sure he would vote for his government.

In this great and just land of ours, the rich also have equal protection under the law. If you want an investigation, write your congressman, or clip this letter and mail it to him.

Modesto. LARRY KENNEDY.

*Thank Heavens some one found a way
to have this looked into.
Please do it.*

EDGE

Thank you

62-99801-34

ENCLOSURE

nml

670

November 19, 1971

EX-112

REC-15

62-99801-34
Honorable John J. McFall
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

CALIF

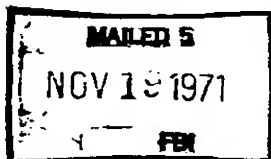
My dear Congressman:

Your communication dated November 12th addressed to the Department of Justice enclosing a note from [REDACTED] has been referred to me and was received on November 18th.

With regard to the incident involving Howard Hughes to which your constituent refers, no information has been received by this Bureau indicating a violation within our jurisdiction. We are therefore precluded from taking the action [REDACTED] suggests.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover



- 1 - Las Vegas - Enclosures (2)
- 1 - San Francisco - Enclosures (2)
- 1 - Mr. [REDACTED] - Enclosures (2) (detached)

NOTE: Bufiles disclose no references identifiable with [REDACTED]

Bufiles disclose limited but cordial relations with Congressman McFall. Reference to Hughes incident coordinated with General Investigative Division.

Tolson _____
Felt _____
Rosen _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Miller, E.S. _____
Callahan _____
Casper _____
Conrad _____
Dalbey _____
Cleveland _____
Ponder _____
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Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

JWD:nmi (8)

54 NOV 29 1971

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

b7c

b7c

SP/6CM

b7c

TEB/HFh
JAN 13 1972
MSR
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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET3

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- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b2, b7C & b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.
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☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

62-99801 - Not Recorded.

XXXXXX
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 X DELETED PAGE(S) X
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 X FOR THIS PAGE X
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DO-7

FROM

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Howard Hughes

OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK

MR. TOLSON

MR. FELT

MR. SULLIVAN

MR. MOHR

MR. BISHOP

MR. BRENNAN, C.D.

MR. CALLAHAN

MR. CASPER

MR. CONRAD

MR. DALBEY

MR. GALE

MR. PONDER

MR. ROSEN

MR. TAVEL

MR. WALTERS

MR. SOYARS

MISS HOLMES

MISS GANDY

SEE ME

NOTE AND RETURN

PREPARE REPLY

SEND MEMO TO ATTORNEY GENERAL

FOR YOUR RECOMMENDATION

WHAT ARE THE FACTS?

HOLD

REMARKS:

*Did our
Doc at
Las Vegas
ever advise
us of this?*

*53 AUG 23 1971
1-406*

12-99801-
NOT RECORDED
87 AUG 18 1971

AUG 19 1971

ORIGINAL FILED IN 94-50-53-9

Howard Hughes and His Hired Hands

By Jack Anderson

LAS VEGAS—From his penthouse hermitage, Howard Hughes used to issue orders to public officials as if they were hired hands.

We have obtained copies of the secret, scribbled instructions he handed down to his Nevada foreman, Robert Maheu.

For four years, the nation's richest man lived as a recluse in a clinically sealed penthouse above Las Vegas' neon glitter. He grew a long white beard and acquired a multimillion-dollar collection of gambling casinos and silver mines.

To ramrod this dazzling empire, he hired Maheu, an ex-FBI agent, who had been operating a private Missions Impossible agency in Washington, D.C.

Not even Maheu ever saw the elusive Hughes, who kept out of sight in his neon-lit lair surrounded only by six male nursemaid-bodyguards. Maheu got all his orders by telephone or in writing.

Now Hughes has disappeared from Nevada as mysteriously as his dark-of-night arrival four years earlier. But his hand-written memos to Maheu remain behind under court seal.

These memos indicate that Paul Laxalt, while governor of Nevada, was deeply involved in helping Hughes acquire some of the state's most glamorous gambling places. Even the head of the FBI in Las

Vegas, Harold "Red" Campbell, was pressed into assisting Hughes with his acquisitions, according to the memos.

Nevada's two senators, Alan Bible and Howard Cannon, were reported in the memos to be running interference for Hughes in Washington.

When the Justice Department threatened to go to court to block Hughes from amassing more casinos, Maheu reported to the penthouse that "many friends in Washington" had intervened. Among them, he said, was Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman James Eastland (D-Miss.).

In 1968, Hughes tried unsuccessfully to take over Harrah's famous gambling emporiums at Reno and Lake Tahoe. He scribbled impatient instructions to Maheu.

"I feel," Hughes wrote, "the Gov. should point out to Harrah the obvious unfairness in encouraging us for six months to believe the price will be based upon the general formula I spelled out and then a complete reversal of his position and a demand that we pay for the Tahoe Club alone the identical price he had been quoting for the two clubs combined in one package."

"I feel the Gov. ought to explain to Harrah that you don't treat friends in this way. Let's have the Gov. working on this."

It was Hughes' attempt to buy the Stardust in Las Vegas, however, that finally got him into trouble with the Justice

Department's antitrust division in 1969.

Yet he wrote Maheu: "I feel that since the Governor . . . (has) gone out on a limb to sponsor this deal, we are obligated to go thru with it. And that goes even tho Laxalt may say we are free to do as we wish. . . . We must close the transaction."

But later, Hughes apparently wavered in his thinking. He wrote Maheu on March 14, 1968: "Are you sure that we should go ahead with this deal instead of taking this opportunity to offer the Gov. a compromise which will place him in debt to us for a long time to come?"

Hughes was also getting some static over his acquisitions from George Dickerson, then a member of the Nevada Gambling Commission. For the billionaire was dickering not only to take over the Stardust but the Silver Slipper and Silver Nugget casinos as well.

"Bob," Hughes instructed Maheu, "I approve heartily of arranging a meeting between you and Dickerson and the Nevada head of the FBI. I urge you to arrange with the above head of the FBI that he will explain to Dickerson the urgency of our buying out the Stardust and Slipper operating groups."

"At the same meeting, please try to arrange that Mr. FBI of Nevada will convince Dickerson also of the likewise importance of our buying out the SIL. NUG. OF ALV. & STARDUST."

of the criminal element now gathering there."

Paul Laxalt, who retired from the governorship this year to return to private law practice, told us he had merely made appointments to help Hughes build up his Nevada empire.

"We thought heavy Hughes involvement in Nevada was healthy," Laxalt explained. He said he had turned down overtures from Hughes to join his organization. "I gave him a hand-written memo indicating I couldn't join him," Laxalt said. He acknowledged, however, that he does some consulting work for the Hughes interests.

Harold Campbell, the local FBI head, refused to return our calls.

Footnote: after the Justice Department threatened to file a lawsuit to stop Hughes from purchasing the Stardust, Maheu reported to Hughes on June 28, 1968:

"Howard Cannon called me this afternoon to inform that he and Sen. Bible have been told all day long—by fellow senators—that they can depend on full support and assistance in sustaining their position that we obtain the Stardust. . . ."

"In the meantime, I've been in constant touch with George Franklin (then Las Vegas district attorney) and Gov. Laxalt, and they are both ready to challenge the Department single-handedly."

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62-99801-
ENCLOSURE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Bishop
Mr. Brennan CD
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Casper
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Dalbey
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Walters
Mr. Young
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

ulco CO

TNR 001 LV PLAIN

5:53 PM URGENT 8/7/71 MJH

TO DIRECTOR

FROM LAS VEGAS (80-77) TP

[Redacted]
67

JACK ANDERSON, WASHINGTON, D. C. COLUMNIST; INFO CONCERNING.

REMYTEL AUGUST THREE LAST, INDICATING SECRETARY OF JACK ANDERSON HAD CALLED FROM WASHINGTON, D. C. IN SAC'S ABSENCE, IT WAS INDICATED ANDERSON DID NOT DESIRE TO CONVERSE WITH ANY OTHER REPRESENTATIVE AND HIS SECRETARY REQUESTED THAT SAC, LAS VEGAS, CALL ANDERSON AT WASHINGTON, D. C. NUMBER. RETEL STATED ANDERSON'S CALL WOULD NOT BE RETURNED.

THE "NEVADA STATE JOURNAL", RENO, NEVADA, TODAY, CARRIED JACK ANDERSON'S "MERRY-GO-ROUND" COLUMN, CAPTIONED, "HUGHES TRIED TO RULE NEVADA OFFICIALS; HE WANTED TO PLACE LAXALT IN HIS DEBT". BASIC THEME OF THE ARTICLE IS THAT HOWARD HUGHES EXERTED INFLUENCE ON PUBLIC OFFICIALS AT ALL

END PAGE ONE

20 AUG 12 1971

MR. MOHR FOR THE DIRECTOR

62-99801-
NOT RECORDED
37 AUG 18 1971

66 AUG 10 1971

ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-99801-37

LV 88-77

PAGE TWO

LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT IN HIS OWN BEST INTERESTS. ANDERSON STATES HE OBTAINED COPIES OF SECRET, SCRIBBLED INSTRUCTIONS HUGHES HANDED DOWN TO HIS "NEVADA FOREMAN, ROBERT MAHEU". HE DESCRIBED MAHEU AS AN EX-FBI AGENT WHO HAD OPERATED A PRIVATE "MISSION IMPOSSIBLE" AGENCY IN WASHINGTON, D. C., AND CITED ONE OF MAHEU'S SECRET MISSIONS AS AN ASSASSINATION PLOT TO GUN DOWN OR POISON FIDEL CASTRO. COPY OF ARTICLE BEING MAILED SEPARATELY TO BUREAU UNDER THIS CAPTION.

UNDER THE SUB-CAPTION ENTITLED, "GOVERNOR'S ROLE", ONE OF THE COMMENTS IS "EVEN THE HEAD OF THE FBI IN LAS VEGAS, HAROLD (RED) CAMPBELL, WAS PRESSED INTO ASSISTING HUGHES WITH HIS ACQUISITIONS, ACCORDING TO THE MEMOS".

UNDER ANOTHER SUB-CAPTION ENTITLED, "G-MAN IMPLICATED", IT IS STATED THAT HUGHES WAS HAVING DIFFICULTY IN HIS ATTEMPTED ACQUISITIONS OF THE STARDUST AND SILVER SLIPPER CASINOS WITH GEORGE DICKERSON, WHO WAS AT THAT TIME A MEMBER OF THE NEVADA GAMING COMMISSION. ANDERSON QUOTED A NOTE FROM HUGHES TO

END PAGE TWO

LV 69-77

PAGE THREE

MAHEU AS FOLLOWS, "BOB, I APPROVE HEARTILY OF ARRANGING A MEETING BETWEEN YOU AND DICKERSON AND THE NEVADA HEAD OF THE FBI. I URGE YOU TO PRE-ARRANGE WITH THE ABOVE HEAD OF THE FBI THAT HE WILL EXPLAIN TO DICKERSON THE URGENCY OF OUR BUYING OUT THE STARDUST AND SLIPPER OPERATING GROUPS". AFTER SOME QUOTES FROM FORMER GOVERNOR PAUL LAXALT, THIS PORTION OF ANDERSON'S ARTICLE CONCLUDES WITH THE PARAGRAPH, "HAROLD CAMPBELL, THE LOCAL FBI HEAD, REFUSED TO RETURN OUR CALLS".

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7c

NEGOTIATIONS FOR ACQUISITION BY HOWARD HUGHES OF THE STARDUST AND SILVER SLIPPER CASINOS BEGAN IN NINETEEN SIXTY-SEVEN. FINAL LICENSING APPROVALS BY STATE AND COUNTY OFFICIALS ON BOTH ACQUISITIONS OCCURRED IN APRIL, SIXTY-EIGHT. HUGHES BEGAN ACTUAL OPERATION OF THE SILVER SLIPPER ON MAY ONE SIXTY-EIGHT, AND AS OF THAT DATE, NEGOTIATIONS AND LICENSING HAVING BEEN

END PAGE THREE

LV 80-77

PAGE FOUR

COMPLETELY FINALIZED, HIS OPERATION OF THE STARDUST WAS ONLY PENDING EXPIRATION OF THE THEN CURRENT LEASE AS OF JUNE THIRTY SIXTY-EIGHT.

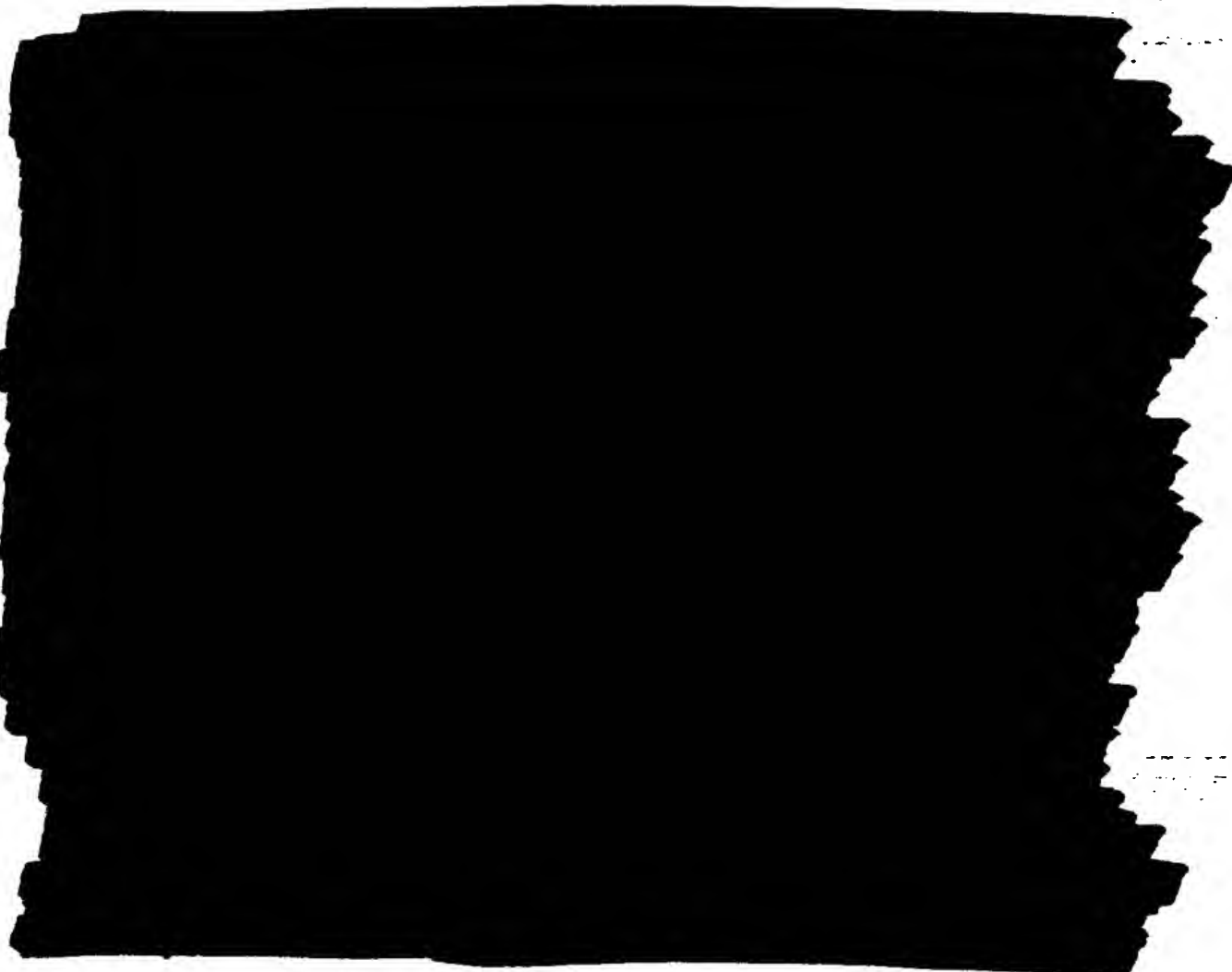
ON JUNE TWENTY-SEVEN, SIXTY-EIGHT, SAC, LAS VEGAS, WAS CONFIDENTIALLY ADVISED BY THE U.S. ATTORNEY, NEVADA, THAT THE ANTI-TRUST DIVISION OF THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT HAD SOUGHT INJUNCTIONS AGAINST HUGHES' TAKE-OVER OF THE STARDUST UNDER PROVISIONS OF THE SHERMAN ANTI-TRUST ACT. FOLLOWING AGREEMENTS BETWEEN HUGHES' COUNSEL AND JUSTICE DEPARTMENT ATTORNEYS TO DEFER THE TAKE-OVER, HOWARD HUGHES ANNOUNCED ON AUGUST SIXTEEN SIXTY-EIGHT, CANCELLATION OF THE STARDUST PURCHASE, GIVING NO REASON FOR SAME. THE FBI WAS TO MY KNOWLEDGE AT NO TIME IN ANY WAY INVOLVED OR CONSULTED IN EITHER THE STARDUST OR SILVER SLIPPER ACQUISITIONS AND MY ONLY KNOWLEDGE OF SAME WAS, OF COURSE, AFTER NEGOTIATIONS WERE COMPLETED AND BASED SOLELY UPON INFORMATION FROM OUR SOURCES AND WHAT APPEARED IN THE NEWS MEDIA. IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT THE STARDUST WAS PRINCIPALLY OWNED BY M. B. DALITZ, WELL-KNOWN HOODLUM, WHO LATER SOLD THE HOTEL TO THE

END PAGE FOUR

LV 88-77

PAGE FIVE

PARVIN-DOHRMANN CORPORATION (NOW RECRION), IN EARLY NINETEEN
SIXTY-NINE.



END PAGE FIVE

b7c

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7c & b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information: _____

- ☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

62-99801- Not Recorded Teletype 8/7/71, page 6.

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

LV 88-77

PAGE SEVEN

[REDACTED]

b7c/D

INSTANT ARTICLE IS THE SECOND TO BE PUBLISHED IN NEVADA, THE FIRST BEING PUBLISHED ON AUGUST SIX, LAST, AND HAVING TO DO WITH HUGHES' POLITICAL MOVES IN THE PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN OF NINETEEN SIXTY-EIGHT. THIS ARTICLE REPORTED LARGE CONTRIBUTIONS FROM HOWARD HUGHES TO PRESIDENT NIXON AS WELL AS A SMALLER CONTRIBUTION TO HUBERT HUMPHREY. THE ARTICLE REPORTED IT WAS THE ULTIMATE DESIRE OF HUGHES TO BACK LAXALT FOR PRESIDENT, POSSIBLE IN NINETEEN SEVENTY-TWO.

THE BUREAU WILL BE ADVISED OF ANY FURTHER PERTINENT DISCLOSURES OR ALLEGATIONS.

END

WA...JDR

FBI WASH-DC

CLR CC: Mr. Bishop

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Gale

DATE: 8-8-71

FROM : A. A. Staffeld

SUBJECT: COLUMNIST JACK ANDERSON;
CLAIM OF FBI INTERVENTION
ON BEHALF OF HOWARD HUGHES
IN ACQUISITION OF LAS VEGAS
HOTEL-CASINOS

Tolson
DeLoach
Mohr
Bishop
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
Felt
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

(ATTACHED)

As you may recall, by teletype 8-3-71, SAC Campbell, Las Vegas, reported columnist Anderson was trying to reach him by telephone and Campbell stated he would not return Anderson's call. The Director agreed.

SAC Campbell now reports that an Anderson column appearing in the "Nevada State Journal," Reno, Nevada, 8-7-71 alleging Hughes' influence exerted at various official levels in building his Nevada real estate empire, claims that SAC Campbell was pressed into assisting Hughes with his acquisitions. Anderson in his column claims he had obtained copies of secret, scribbled instructions Hughes directed to his "Nevada foreman," Robert Mahcu, regarding influence to be exerted on public officials on Hughes' behalf. Anderson states that the "head of the FBI in Las Vegas, Harold (Red) Campbell," was included.

In connection with alleged difficulty Hughes was experiencing with Nevada Gaming Commission Member George Dickerson in his attempted acquisition of the Stardust and Silver Slipper casinos, Anderson quotes from one of the notes from Hughes to Mahcu as follows: "Bob, I approve heartily of arranging a meeting between you and Dickerson and the Nevada head of the FBI. I urge you to pre-arrange with the above head of the FBI that he will explain to Dickerson the urgency of our buying out the Stardust and Silver Slipper operating groups." Anderson later states that "Harold Campbell, the local FBI head, refused to return our calls."

Enc.

1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Felt
1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. Bishop

1 - Mr. Callahan
1 - Mr. Gale
1 - Mr. Staffeld
1 - Mr. [REDACTED]

20 AUG 12 1971

JE:tjk
(9)

NOT RECORDED

37 AUG 18 1971

CONTINUED - OVER

ENCLOSURE

66 AUG 12 1971

PERS. REC. UNIT

re: [REDACTED]

ACTION:

ACTION: For information. Copy of Anderson Column appearing in Washington Post 8-7-71 regarding above subject matter is attached.

above subject: _____

Tolson _____
 Sullivan _____
 Mohr _____
 Bishop _____
 Brennan, C.D. _____
 Callahan _____
 Casper _____
 Conrad _____
 Dalbey _____
 Felt _____
 Gale _____
 Rosen _____
 Tavel _____
 Walters _____
 Soyars _____
 Beaver _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

The Washington Merry-Go-Round

THE WASHINGTON POST Saturday, Aug. 7, 1971 D23

Howard Hughes and His Hired Hands

By Jack Anderson

LAS VEGAS—From his penthouse hermitage, Howard Hughes used to issue orders to public officials as if they were hired hands.

We have obtained copies of the secret, scribbled instructions he handed down to his Nevada foreman, Robert Maheu.

For four years, the nation's richest man lived as a recluse in a clinically sealed penthouse above Las Vegas' neon glitter. He grew a long white beard and acquired a multi-million-dollar collection of gambling casinos and silver mines. To ramrod this dazzling empire, he hired Maheu, an ex-FBI agent, who had been operating a private Missions Impossible agency in Washington, D.C.

Not even Maheu ever saw the elusive Hughes, who kept out of sight in his neon-lit lair surrounded only by six male ursemald-bodyguards. Maheu got all his orders by telephone or in writing.

Now Hughes has disappeared from Nevada as mysteriously as his dark-of-night arrival four years earlier. But his hand-written memos to Maheu remain behind under court seal.

These memos indicate that Paul Laxalt, while governor of Nevada, was deeply involved in helping Hughes acquire some of the state's most glamorous gambling places. Even the head of the FBI in Las

Vegas, Harold "Red" Campbell, was pressed into assisting Hughes with his acquisitions, according to the memos.

Nevada's two senators, Alan Bible and Howard Cannon, were reported in the memos to be running interference for Hughes in Washington.

When the Justice Department threatened to go to court to block Hughes from amassing more casinos, Maheu reported to the penthouse that "many friends in Washington" had intervened. Among them, he said, was Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman James Eastland (D-Miss.).

In 1968, Hughes tried unsuccessfully to take over Harrah's famous gambling emporiums at Reno and Lake Tahoe. He scribbled impatient instructions to Maheu.

"I feel," Hughes wrote, "the Gov. should point out to Harrah the obvious unfairness in encouraging us for six months to believe the price will be based upon the general formula I spelled out and then a complete reversal of his position and a demand that we pay for the Tahoe Club alone the identical price he had been quoting for the two clubs combined in one package."

"I feel the Gov. ought to explain to Harrah that you don't treat friends in this way. Let's have the Gov. working on this."

It was Hughes' attempt to buy the Stardust in Las Vegas, however, that finally got him into trouble with the Justice

Department's antitrust division in 1968.

Yet he wrote Maheu: "I feel that since the Governor . . . (has) gone out on a limb to sponsor this deal, we are obligated to go thru with it. And that goes even tho Laxalt may say we are free to do as we wish. . . . We must close the transaction."

But later, Hughes apparently wavered in his thinking. He wrote Maheu on March 14, 1969: "Are you sure that we should go ahead with this deal instead of taking this opportunity to offer the Gov. a compromise which will place him in debt to us for a long time to come?"

Hughes was also getting some static over his acquisitions from George Dickerson, then a member of the Nevada Gaming Commission. For the billionaire was dickering not only to take over the Stardust but the Silver Slipper and Silver Nugget casinos as well.

"Bob," Hughes instructed Maheu, "I approve heartily of arranging a meeting between you and Dickerson and the Nevada head of the FBI. I urge your prearrange with the above head of the FBI that he will explain to Dickerson the urgency of our buying out the Stardust and Slipper operating groups."

"At the same meeting, please try to arrange that Mr. FBI of Nevada will convince Dickerson also of the likewise importance of our buying out the Sil. Nug. of NLV because

The Washington Post Times Herald D-23

The Washington Daily News

The Evening Star (Washington)

The Sunday Star (Washington)

Daily News (New York)

Sunday News (New York)

New York Post

The New York Times

The Daily World

The New Leader

The Wall Street Journal

The National Observer

People's World

Date 8-7-71

62-99801-

of the criminal element now gathering there."

Paul Laxalt, who retired from the governorship this year to return to private law practice, told us he had merely made appointments to help Hughes build up his Nevada empire.

"We thought heavy Hughes involvement in Nevada was healthy," Laxalt explained. He said he had turned down overtures from Hughes to join his organization. "I gave him a hand-written memo indicating I couldn't join him," Laxalt said. He acknowledged, however, that he does some consulting work for the Hughes interests.

Harold Campbell, the local FBI head, refused to return our calls.

Footnote: after the Justice Department threatened to file a lawsuit to stop Hughes from purchasing the Stardust, Maheu reported to Hughes on June 28, 1968:

"Howard Cannon called me this afternoon to inform that he and Sen. Bible have been told all day long—by fellow senators—that they can depend on full support and assistance in sustaining their position that we obtain the Stardust....

"In the meantime, I've been in constant touch with George Franklin (then Las Vegas district attorney) and Gov. Laxalt, and they are both ready to challenge the Department single-handedly."

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Sullivan _____
Wahr _____
Bishop _____
Brennan, C.D. _____
Callahan _____
Casper _____
Conrad _____
Dalbey _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Tavel _____
Walters _____
Soyars _____
Heaver _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

The Washington Post _____
Times Herald _____
The Washington Daily News _____
The Evening Star (Washington) _____
The Sunday Star (Washington) _____
Daily News (New York) _____
Sunday News (New York) _____
New York Post _____
The New York Times _____
The Daily World _____
The New Leader _____
The Wall Street Journal _____
The National Observer _____
People's World _____

Date _____

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 1/3/72

FROM : SAC, MILWAUKEE (62-0)

SUBJECT: HOWARD HUGHES
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Bishop	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

The following information is being furnished to the Bureau for information purposes:

[REDACTED] made available to [REDACTED] paper back book entitled, "Howard Hughes in Las Vegas," written by OMAR GARRISON, which pointed out on page 220 that HUGHES created a new identity and assumed the name of R. WAYNE RECTOR. [REDACTED] also made available a copy of "Look" Magazine dated June 1, 1971, which contained an article concerning HUGHES. Page 24 of the magazine contains a handwritten letter purportedly written by HUGHES to BOB MAHEU. [REDACTED] advised [REDACTED] that this letter contains the handwriting of [REDACTED] WAYNE RECTOR. [REDACTED] advised that he has seen the original handwriting of [REDACTED] former husband and after comparing the original handwriting with that contained in the magazine article, the possibility exists that the two may be identical.

[REDACTED] stated he knows [REDACTED] personally and does not consider her to be unstable. He advised he will maintain the above articles should these be of any interest to the Bureau.

(2) - Bureau
1 - Milwaukee (62-0)
RDP:EF
(3)



JAN 14 1972

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

REC-8

ST-103

15 JAN 1972

CRIMINAL DIVISION

62-99801-35

JAN 6 1972

The Attorney General

January 25, 1972

Director, FBI

HOWARD R. HUGHES

As you are well aware, the news media have recently been carrying various stories pertaining to the authenticity of an alleged biography of Howard R. Hughes to be published by McGraw-Hill and "Life" magazine.

Information has come to my attention to indicate that McGraw-Hill has now concluded that the entire matter is a complete hoax and that the company has been swindled for the monies paid out.

McGraw-Hill had placed reliance on certain documents furnished by Clifford Irving, author of the allegedly approved biography, which had been subjected to handwriting examination by the company. Once the ominous possibility of fraud and forgery had surfaced, McGraw-Hill submitted the documents for further, and more careful, examination which gave definite evidence that they were fraudulent. Additionally, comparison of known fingerprints of Mr. Hughes on a fingerprint card obtained from the Nevada Gaming Commission with latent prints developed on the documents determined that none of them belonged to Mr. Hughes.

Investigation conducted by McGraw-Hill has now led them to believe that the documents were prepared by an international art forger by the name of De Nery and the investigation by that company is now being directed toward the development of that information.

1 - The Deputy Attorney General

NOTE:

[REDACTED]

Tolson
Felt
Sears
Mohr
Bishop
Wick
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
Felt
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

JBT:ls (6)

JAN 26 1972

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

February 2, 1972

EX-102

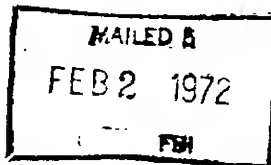
REC-6 62-99801-37

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

In reply to your letter of January 27th, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, cannot conduct inquiries to determine the whereabouts or well-being of private citizens unless there is some indication a violation of Federal law over which we have jurisdiction has occurred. Since this is not the case with respect to Mr. Howard Hughes, I am unable to take the action you desire.

Sincerely yours,



J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

4
PMP
7

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record correspondent.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Felt _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Bishop _____
Mr. Miller, E.S. _____
Mr. Callahan _____
Mr. Casper _____
Mr. Conrad _____
Mr. Dalbey _____
Mr. Cleveland _____
Mr. Ponder _____
Mr. Bates _____
Mr. Waskart _____
Mr. Walters _____
Mr. Soyars _____
Mr. Roon _____
Mr. Holmes _____
Ms. Gandy _____

57 FEB 10 1972

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

[REDACTED]

gem
HRA

[REDACTED]

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]
January 27, 1972

Dear Mr. Hoover:

○ Hughes. Please investigate the whereabouts of Mr. Howard

And please see him for your self, don't take messages from any other person.

See that he is not intimidated or held captive by the people who manage his business.

It is my personal opinion that he has been slain by his hirelings. The people are entitled to know the truth, is he alive?

Or is he an invalid and prisoner? No sane man would leave the world in such impossible doubt as has been perpetrated on the American public, if he could help it. I blame The Hughes Tool Co. If he just wants to be a recluse, that is perfectly fine. But find out if he does want to be unapproachable.

I don't believe it for one moment, and this has become more frightening than one of the Hitchcock hair raisers. What is Federal Bureau of Investigation for? If not to protect the citizens of America, even if they are Billionaires or shoe shine boys.

EX-102
What kind of don't care people have we become? if we just sit by Idly and wonder what is going on? REC-6 62-99801-37

Please do something about this poor man, and let the people know, clear away the mystery. Once and for all. FEB 3 1972

Sincerely

[REDACTED]
"Private Citizen who cares"

174/174
ack/aml
2-2-72
[REDACTED] mmm
[REDACTED]
8/ [REDACTED]
b7c
TRUE COPY

b7c

January 27, 1972

Dear Mr. Hoover: -

Please investigate the whereabouts of Mr. Howard Hughes.

And please see him for your self, don't take messages from any other person.

See that he is not intimidated or held captive by the people who manage his business.

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JML

b7c

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What kind of don't care people have we become? if we just sit by idly and wonder what is going on.

Please do something about this poor man, and let the people know, clear away the mystery. Once and for all.

Sincerely

[Redacted signature]

"Private citizen who cares"

574

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

FEB 17 1972

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Mr. Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

STATE 243

URGENT 2-17-72

TO DIRECTOR NR024

FROM LEGAT MANAGUA

HOWARD H. HUGHES INFORMATION CONCERNING.

HUGHES ARRIVED MANAGUA FEBRUARY ONE SIX LAST AT EXPRESS INVITATION OF PRESIDENT ANASTASIO SOMOZA. VISIT REPORTEDLY IS FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING OPERATIONS OF HUGHES TOOL COMPANY IN NICARAGUA.

PRESIDENT SOMOZA DEPARTED MANAGUA FEBRUARY ONE SEVEN INSTANT FOR A FOUR DAY OFFICIAL VISIT TO PANAMA AND HAS HAD NO CONTACT WITH HUGHES.

END

RECEIVED 5:56PM BJM

ST-100

REC-65

62-99801-38

FEB 23 1972

62 MAR 1 1972

CC: MR. [REDACTED]
3RD CC: MR. [REDACTED]

MR. [REDACTED]

NAT. INT. SEC.

57C

MM 62-8

PAGE TWO

TEL CALL RECEIVED FROM MEMBER OF HUGHES TOOL CO.,
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA, CASINO SECURITY OFFICE, REVEALED THAT
HUGHES WAS, IN FACT, IN MANAGUA, NICARAGUA.

[REDACTED]

b1

ABOVE BEING FURNISHED FOR INFORMATION.

END

M

[Signature]

CC: Mr. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

FEB 17 1972

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Bishop	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

NR011 MM PLAIN

858PM NITEL 2-17-72 JMS

TO DIRECTOR

FROM MIAMI 62-8

2P

HOWARD HUGHES, INFO CONCERNING.

[REDACTED]

U.S. CUSTOMS, MIAMI, FLA., ADVISED THAT AT TWO FORTY FIVE AM, THIS DATE, LEAR JET FROM NASSAU LANDED FT. LAUDERDALE, FLA., CARRYING TWO CREW MEMBERS AND THREE PASSENGERS BEARING NAMES CARL ROMA, GEORGE FRANCONI AND JOHN HOLMES. THIS AIRCRAFT DEPARTED FOR MANAGUA, NICARAGUA. FURTHER, AT EIGHT AM, C FORTY SIX LANDED FT. LAUDERDALE FROM NASSAU BEARING TWO CREW MEMBERS AND TWO PASSENGERS WHO WERE DROPPED OFF AT THIS POINT. THIS AIRCRAFT ALSO DEPARTED FOR MANAGUA.

END PAGE ONE

12 FEB 1972

1 FEB 20 1972

NAT. INT. SEC.

February 25, 1972

REC-30

62-99801-40

ST-115

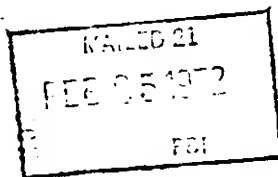
Dear [REDACTED]

In reply to your letter received on February 22nd, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, cannot conduct inquiries to determine the whereabouts or well-being of private citizens unless there is some indication a violation of Federal law over which we have jurisdiction has occurred. Since this is not the case with respect to Mr. Howard Hughes, I am unable to take the action you desire.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director



NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

MLN:jkm (3)

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Felt _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Bishop _____
Mr. Miller, E.S. _____
Mr. Callahan _____
Mr. Casper _____
Mr. Conrad _____
Mr. Dalbey _____
Mr. Cleveland _____
Mr. Ponder _____
Mr. Bates _____
Mr. Winkert _____
Mr. Walters _____
Mr. Soyars _____
Tele. Room _____
Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

MAR 3 1972

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

TRUE COPY

Dear Sir,

I think there should be a full scale investigation by the F.B.I. into the disappearance of Howard Hughes. I believe he is being held by a self-styled type of mafia.

Have the F.B.I. looked into it at all?

[REDACTED]

TRUE COPY

Federal Bureau of
Investigation
Washington, D.C.

C/O
an FB I
Agent

17c
2-23-72
Jim

Ack
2-25-72
11/21/72 m

ST-115
REC-30

62-99801-40 \$

3 FEB 29 1972

Dear Sir,

I think there should be a full scale investigation by the F.B.I. into the disappearance of Howard Hughes. I believe he is being held by a self-styled type of mafia.

Have the F. B. I. looked into it at all?

ITC
2-23-72
JMD
Ack
2-25-72
JMD
11-20-72
m. 1

CORRESPONDENCE
inlv

b7c

TICK AT AS YELLOW

1 - Mr. [REDACTED]
1 - Mr. [REDACTED]

LABORATORY

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

To: Commissioner
Bureau of Customs
Department of the Treasury
Washington, D. C. 20526

October 2, 1972

Attention: Mr. [REDACTED]

Re: Howard Hughes,
P.O.B. 12/24/05;
Handwriting Examination

L. Patrick Gray
L. Patrick Gray, III
Acting Director

YOUR NO. INV.20.010

FBI FILE NO.

Examination requested by: Addressee

LAB. NO. D-720028037 JH

Reference: Letter dated 9/27/72

Examination requested: Document - Fingerprint

Q1 Form bearing heading "Private Aircraft Inspection Report" for Plane No. N123H bearing signature "H. Hughes" on Line 7

Result of examination: *Howard H. Hughes*

Due to the limited nature of the questioned signature on Q1 and because of the differences in time in the preparation of the questioned signature and available known signatures, a definite conclusion could not be reached whether the questioned signature on Q1 was prepared by HOWARD ROBERT HUGHES, whose available known handwriting consists of signatures appearing on fingerprint cards.

It is noted that a few hand printing characteristics in common were noted in the hand printing after the Hughes signature on Line 7 and the hand printing on Line 8 of Q1 indicating the possibility that one person may have prepared this hand printing.

Q1 has been photographed and is returned herewith. A separate report is being furnished on the requested fingerprint examination of Q1.

- ① - Bufile (62-99801)-
- 1 - Bufile (62-112732)

Enclosure

62-99801-

NOT RECORDED
191 OCT 16 1972

- Felt _____
- Mohr _____
- Rosen _____
- Bates _____
- Bishop _____
- Callahan _____
- Campbell _____
- Casper _____
- Cleveland _____
- Conrad _____
- Felley _____
- Marshall _____
- McGuire _____
- Winter _____
- Nease _____
- Walters _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Kasper _____
- Mr. Armstrong _____
- Mr. Herlihy _____
- Mr. Neenan _____

FMD:jjw
OCT 11 1972

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

YELLOW

ORIGINAL FILED IN 95-179917-1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAR 15 1972

TELETYPE

JB 32 03-15-72 6:46PM KJB

STATE 628

URGENT 03-15-72

TRANSMITTED IN CODE -
PARAPHRASE IF DISSEMINATED

TO: DIRECTOR MR. 040

FROM: LEGAT MANAGUA

HOWARD H. HUGHES INFORMATION CONCERNING.

RE MANAGUA CABLE, FEBRUARY SEVENTEEN LAST.

HUGHES DEPARTED MANAGUA LATE HOURS OF MARCH THIRTEEN LAST.

NEWS RELEASES INDICATED HUGHES ENROUTE FLORIDA;

RECEIVED: 6:01 P.M. MSE/KJB

XXXXXXXXXX

MXW FBI WASH DC

EX-100
REC-88

MCT-1

62-99801-

41
6/17
for

62 MAR 2 1972

CO: Mr. Bishop

3RD CC: [REDACTED]

FOR THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

b7c

b7D

b7D

b7c

REC-70

SI-III

62-99801-43

October 17, 1972

[REDACTED]

b7c

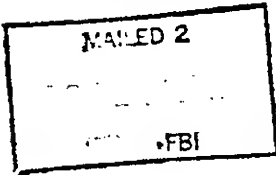
Dear [REDACTED]

I am unable to comply with the request in your letter of October 10th to forward your communication to Mr. Howard Hughes. The letter you enclosed is being returned herewith.

Sincerely yours,

L. Patrick Gray III

L. Patrick Gray, III
Acting Director



Enclosure

NOTE: The [REDACTED] are not identifiable in Bufiles.

b7c

JWD:jrp (3)

jrp

TEB/H.H.G.
MSR

(Jen)

- Felt _____
- Baker _____
- Bates _____
- Bishop _____
- Callahan _____
- Cleveland _____
- Conrad _____
- Dalbey _____
- Jenkins _____
- Marshall _____
- Miller, E.S. _____
- Ponder _____
- Soyars _____
- Walters _____
- Tele. Rm. _____
- Mr. Kinley _____
- Mr. Armstrong _____
- Ms. Herwig _____
- Mrs. Neenan _____

REC-70
OCT 17 3 00 PM '72

OCT 25 1972

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

JRP

JWA



11

C

D

67c



October 10, 1972

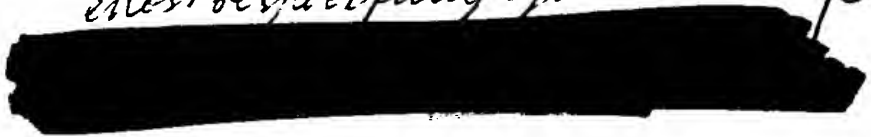
Director Grey
Federal Bureau
of Investigation
Washington D.C. 20535

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Cleveland	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Dalbey	_____
Mr. Jenkins	_____
Mr. Marshall	_____
Mr. Miller E.S.	_____
Mr. Fonder	_____
Mr. Soyars	_____
Mr. Walters	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Kinley	_____
Mr. Armstrong	_____
Mr. Herwig	_____
Mrs. Neenan	_____

Dear Sir: Hughes, Howard

As it is sheer impossible to contact Mr. Hughes, may we take the liberty to prevail on your esteemed assistance as all secret addresses are known to you only. Would you kindly forward the enclosed letter, as it is of the highest importance with our effort to benefit humanity, special colleges and universities

Thanking in advance for your kindness
Sincerely yours



67c



ST-111 REC-70 62-99801- 42

ack
10-17-72
JWD:jrp

3 OCT 18 1972

67c

ENCLOSURE

CORRESPONDENCE

Memorandum

Assoc.
Adm. Serv.
Adm. Serv.
Crim. Inv.
Ident.
Files & Com.
Gen. Inv.
Insp.
Intell.
Lab.
Plan. & Eval.
Spec. Inv.
Training
Legal Coun.
Telephone Rm.
Director Sec'y

TO : MR. CALLAHAN

DATE: 11-21-73

FROM : R. R. FRANCK *RRF*

SUBJECT: PHILLIP GAILEY
KNIGHT NEWSPAPERS
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING
dr BEBE REBOZO - HOWARD HUGHES MATTER

On 11-20-73, Mr. Gailey (office telephone 638-2844) telephonically contacted me for verification of the New York Times story of 11-20-73 captioned, "Versions of Gift by Hughes Differ," (attached) which set forth that an FBI agent and the President seemed to be in conflict on funds returned by Rebozo. This matter, of course, refers to the \$100,000 gift from Howard Hughes to Rebozo and the New York Times story recounts that SAC Kenneth W. Whittaker, Miami Office, would be interviewed by the Watergate committee staff. Mr. Gailey requested of me as to whether the FBI had any comment about the possible conflict between the various sources of this story. I told him that we were not in a position to furnish him any information at this time as facts in this matter were still being developed.

I mentioned to Mr. Gailey that should in the future a statement from the FBI be forthcoming, I would see that he was personally contacted in view of his interest in this matter. Mr. Gailey was most appreciative.

ACTION:

None. Submitted for information.

Enc.

RRF:crt
(2) *RRF*

Enclosure

55 DEC 4 1973

62-99801

NOV 23 1973

NOV 21 1973

ENCLOSURE

94-42674-38

VERSIONS OF GIFT BY HUGHES DIFFER

F.B.I. Agent and President
Seen in Conflict on Funds
Returned by Rebozo

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Nov. 19—An agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation has given his superiors an account that appears to contradict President Nixon's version of how a secret \$100,000 gift from Howard R. Hughes, the billionaire industrialist, was handled.

Mr. Nixon reportedly told a group of Representatives last week that his confidante and sometime business partner, C. G. Rebozo of Miami, "had the F.B.I. check it out."

The F.B.I. Mr. Nixon reportedly said, had the 1,001 \$100 bills fingerprinted and the serial numbers checked to make sure that the money originally given to Mr. Rebozo for Mr. Nixon was the same money that was returned.

"So maybe Mr. Rebozo isn't so dumb," said the President, according to notes made by Representative Charles W. Whalen Jr., an Ohio Republican.

Mr. Nixon made his comment after reports that the Watergate committee was investigating the \$100,000 to see if it had been used for other than campaign purposes.

Kenneth Whitaker, the special agent in charge of the Miami field office of the F.B.I. who is the agent to whom Mr. Nixon reportedly referred, has told his superiors that Mr. Rebozo asked him to verify that the \$100,000 returned to Mr. Hughes was the same money he had been given.

Mr. Whitaker, a personal friend of Mr. Rebozo, said he could not do it.

He said that the serial numbers on the bill that he saw were not the same as the ones on the bills now.

Was Shown the Money

Mr. Whitaker, called to Washington to be interviewed by the Watergate committee staff, told superiors in the Justice Department that Mr. Rebozo showed him the money about six months before it was returned.

Mr. Rebozo had the Miami Herald report that he did not take an inventory of the bills or take any other steps to verify that he decided to return them. He told the Herald that this was after the Senate Watergate committee had begun its investigation. It is not known if the Hughes Organization has a record of the serial numbers on the bills that were given to Mr. Rebozo.

Mr. Rebozo had the money in safety deposit boxes in his Key Biscayne Bank and Trust Company, where President Nixon and members of his family maintain checking accounts.

Mr. Whitaker declined comment.

However, sources said he had been asked to explain why he had such a conversation with a private citizen without reporting to his superiors, and why he did not immediately report having seen the \$100,000.

The money was sent to Mr. Rebozo for Mr. Nixon in 1970 in two shipments of \$50,000. A former aide of Mr. Hughes, Robert V. Whitten, has said half the money was supposed to bring a favorable ruling on an antitrust problem.

Different Stories

Robert Danner, the manager of a gambling casino and hotel owned by Mr. Hughes, who delivered the money, said in a deposition that it was for the 1970 Congressional elections.

Mr. Rebozo has said he put the money in safe deposit boxes to hold for the 1972 Presidential election and did not tell Mr. Nixon about it.

In a news conference on Oct. 26, Mr. Nixon praised his friend's handling of the money.

"Let me say that he showed, I think, very good judgment in doing what he did," the President said. "He received a contribution. He was prepared to turn it over to the finance chairman when the finance chairman was appointed."

"But in that interval after he received the contribution and before the finance chairman was appointed, the Hughes company had an unusual light

of massive proportions and he felt that such a contribution to the campaign might prove to be embarrassing."

"At the conclusion of the campaign he decided that it would be in the best interests of everyone concerned, rather than to turn the money over to the finance chairman, to turn it over to the finance chairman."

"And I would say that any individual who voluntarily a contribution of \$100,000 and not touch it because it was turned back in exactly the form it was received, I think that's a pretty good indication that he is a totally honest man."

"Which he is."

Mr. Danner, a one-time F.B.I. agent and former city manager of Miami, said he delivered half the money to Mr. Rebozo at the Key Biscayne Bank and the other half at President Nixon's home at San Clemente.

He said he could not remember which delivery was made first, but he said he told Mr. Rebozo when he visited the bank "here is the first or the second installment as the case may be."

Asst. Dir.:
Admin. _____
Comp. Syst. _____
Ext. Affairs _____
Files & Com. _____
Gen. Inv. _____
Ident. _____
Inspection _____
Intell. _____
Laboratory _____
Plan. & Eval. _____
Spec. Inv. _____
Training _____
Legal Coun. _____
Telephone Rm. _____
Director Sec'y _____

The Washington Post Times Herald _____
The Evening Star (Washington) _____
The Sunday Star (Washington) _____
Daily News (New York) _____
Sunday News (New York) _____
New York Post _____
The New York Times _____
The Daily World _____
The New Leader _____
The Wall Street Journal _____
The National Observer _____
People's World _____

Date NOV 20 1973

62-99801 -

All the money was in cash.
Mr. Rebozo discussed the Hughes gift at length.

"In the beginning, Danner had called me and wanted me to come to Washington or New York," Mr. Rebozo said.

"I'm not sure which city. They wanted to contribute \$50,000. Danner was not with Howard Hughes at the time. This was during the 1968 campaign.

"He introduced me to an attorney there who wanted to give the money directly to the President and I told him there was no chance of that.

"The President has never handled money... even his personal money, he doesn't handle.

"The attorney was Ed Morgan. Now, this isn't to be confused with Ed Morgan who was later an advance man. This is Morgan from the law firm of Welch & Morgan.

"The more I talked with him, the more I felt disinclined to accept it. I notice in the press that Danner says in his deposition that Don Nixon was involved.

"I don't recall that. Don Nixon may have been in town, but I don't recall that as being the reason.

Mr. Rebozo said at first he refused to accept money from

the Hughes people because of the embarrassment suffered by Mr. Nixon after his brother borrowed \$250,000 from a Hughes associate in 1950.

At one point, "Danner came and said" because he wanted to take money for Mr. Nixon from the Hughes group, Mr. Rebozo said.

Finally, he said, he relented and agreed to take the money. The first \$50,000 was delivered in July, 1970, and the second, \$50,000 some months later, he said.

The money, all in cash, was stored in safety deposit boxes in Mr. Rebozo's bank on Key Biscayne.

"The reason I put it in the vault was that we had no finance director at the time and I was waiting for him to be named," Mr. Rebozo said. "In the meantime, something happened between Mahon and Hughes and they had all that flap out there and I began to get memories of that \$250,000 situation.

"I thought I would just sit tight and wait to see if this blew over, and then use it. It didn't get any better, so then I thought, well maybe it will still quiet down and we can use it in the '74 Congressional race, because heaven knows he'll need more help than ever before. But it just got worse and worse, and I gave it back."

Mr. Rebozo said he and one of his attorneys had access to the boxes with the \$100,000 and said he had told Rose Mary Wood, Mr. Nixon's personal secretary, "just for insurance."

After the 1972 Presidential election, Mr. Rebozo said he decided he ought to tell the President about the money.

Memorandum

TO : MR. CALLAHAN

DATE: 11-21-73

FROM : R. R. FRANCK *RR*

SUBJECT: SANDY SMITH
WASHINGTON BUREAU - TIME MAGAZINE
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING
BEBE REBOZO AND RETURN OF \$100,000
CONTRIBUTION TO HOWARD HUGHES

Assoc. Dir. _____
Asst. Dir. _____
Admin. _____
Crim. Inv. _____
Ident. _____
Insp. _____
Intell. _____
Lab. _____
Plan. & Eval. _____
Spec. Inv. _____
Training _____
Legal Coun. _____
Telephone Rm. _____
Director Sec'y _____

On Saturday, 11-17-73, Sandy Smith, Time Magazine, (Office telephone 293-4300; residence telephone (Annapolis, Maryland) 301-757-4835) telephonically contacted me at home concerning information that he had regarding an FBI agent being present with Mr. Rebozo when \$100,000 was counted in Rebozo's bank in Key Biscayne, Florida, which money had originally been contributed to President Nixon's reelection campaign. Mr. Smith stated his purpose in calling was that the White House and the Hill were circulating stories concerning the FBI's participation in this matter and in some details were quite conflicting. He wanted to know if we could assist Time Magazine in straightening the matter out.

I advised Mr. Smith that we were not in a position to furnish him any information at this time as the facts in this matter were still being developed. I mentioned to him that we desired to be helpful and should we have a public statement to make at a later date we would be in touch with him personally in view of his interest in this matter.

Mr. Smith thanked me for my cooperation and advised that the next time he was in the Department of Justice he would stop by to see me personally.

ACTION:

None. Submitted for information.

RRF:crt
(2)

NOV 26 1973

DEC 6 1973

RECEIVED

94-3-4-11

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XXXXXX
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

5 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7c & b7d with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

62-99801-43.

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